Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives
Local Government Division

Immediate Action Plan to Prevent Dengue Outbreak in Bangladesh

October 2025

Improvement of Urban Public Health Preventive Services Project (IUPHPSP)
Local Government Division
DPHE Bhaban (Level 8)
14 Shaheed Captain Mansur Ali Sarani
Kakrail, Dhaka- 1000

Contents

Abbreviations

BCC	Behavior Change Communication
BRTA	Bangladesh Road Transport Authority
BTRC	Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission
BUET	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
CCC	Chattogram City Corporation
CDS	Communicable Disease Surveillance
DGHS	Directorate General of Health Services
DNCC	Dhaka North City Corporation
DSCC	Dhaka South City Corporation
GIS	Geographic Information System
HSD	Health Service Division
IEDCR	Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research
IUPHPSP	Improvement of Urban Public Health Preventive Services Project
IVMU	Integrated Vector Management Unit
LGD	Local Government Division
MoH&FW	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
NCDs	Non-communicable diseases
NPO	National Profession Officer
NIPSOM	National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
TTL	Task Team Leader
WHO	World Health Organization

Summary

Bangladesh is grappling with a rising public health challenge as recurring dengue outbreaks continue to spread across the country, reaching even remote rural villages. Rapid urbanization, people movement, poor waste management, climate change, and weak vector control have worsened the spread. To respond, a multi-stakeholder workshop was held on 30 July 2025 at the Hotel InterContinental Dhaka to develop an immediate action plan.

Participants included officials from the Local Government Division (LGD), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Directorate General of Health Services, three City Corporations, two Paurashavas, the Meteorological Department, researchers from national and international research organizations, development partners, and academicians. The event began with registration, a recitation from the Holy Quran, and a documentary on a project, followed by working sessions focused on strategic planning.

The workshop aimed to build a coordinated framework for dengue management and intersectoral collaboration using innovative tools. Discussions centered on four priorities: policy and legislation, surveillance (disease & vector), vector control, and community engagement.

Key outcomes included identifying policy gaps, strengthening real-time disease surveillance, and standardizing vector monitoring. Immediate measures were proposed, including the safe use of insecticides, resistance management, and enhanced community awareness programs.

The event was inaugurated by Mr. Md. Rezaul Maksud Jahedi, Secretary, LGD, as the Chief Guest. Mr. Abul Khair Mohammad Hafizullah Khan, Joint Secretary, LGD & Project Director, IUPHPSP, welcomed participants and outlined dengue trends, challenges, and proposed actions. Speakers stressed the urgency of a multisectoral response, linking it to the National Dengue Strategy (2024–2030), revised clinical guidelines, and decentralized procurement. The IUPHPS Project was recognized for its role in driving innovation and community-based solutions.

Key recommendations included selecting effective insecticides, improving surveillance, ensuring timely vector control, and tailoring interventions for both urban and rural settings. The Secretary emphasized sustainable solutions, proposing WASH programs, canal excavation, and awareness campaigns, while urging stakeholder engagement and resource mobilization.

Mr. Hafizullah Khan highlighted IUPHPSP's goals: stronger vector control, better medical waste management, reduced climate risks, and improved public awareness. Running from 2023–2028, the project targets five urban and semi-urban areas to prevent dengue.

Proposed actions include larvicide application, fogging, insecticidal paints, bed net use in hospitals for dengue patients, school campaigns to eliminate breeding sites, staff training, and legal measures. Strategic plans call for a central Integrated Vector Management Unit, entomology labs, national guidelines with SOPs, and early warning systems. Key challenges remain: poor coordination, weak surveillance, lack of entomologists, no resistance monitoring, and limited funding.

1.0 Introduction

Urban areas of Bangladesh are densely populated and Bangladesh is currently facing a significant public health challenge due to the recurring outbreaks of dengue fever, a mosquito-borne viral disease that has become endemic in many parts of the country. In recent years, the incidence and geographic spread of dengue have increased dramatically, driven by factors such as rapid urbanization, inadequate waste management, changing climate patterns, and gaps in vector control measures. The urgency to address this threat has never been greater.

In response to this pressing situation, a multi-stakeholder workshop was convened to develop an immediate and coordinated action plan to prevent further escalation of dengue cases. The workshop brought together the government officials from Local Government Division (LGD), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Directorate General of Health Services, 3-City Corporation & 2-Paurashava, Meteorological Department, researchers, public health experts, development partners, and academicians to deliberate on practical, evidence-based strategies to curb the spread of the *Aedes* mosquito—the primary vector of the dengue virus.

This proceedings document captures the ***key discussions, recommendations, and immediate action points*** emerging from the workshop. It outlines an operational framework for dengue vector management and strengthen intersectoral collaboration for vector surveillance using innovative tools and technologies, and control.

It outlines a framework for (i) available polices, regulations & legislations, limitations and gaps; (ii) existing surveillance (disease and vector) limitations, and challenges; (iii) tools and interventions for immediate actions to reduce vector density (special focus on insecticides); (iv) current options on the community engagements and their operational limitations aimed at preventing a large-scale dengue outbreak in Bangladesh. By documenting these outcomes, this report seeks to serve as a roadmap for policymakers, health professionals, and local governments to act swiftly and effectively in safeguarding public health.

The workshop was held on 30 July 2025 at the Crystal Ballroom, Hotel InterContinental, Dhaka 1000, and was organized in two sessions: (1) the Opening Session and (2) the Working Session (Annex 1). The event commenced with participant registration at 9:30 AM, followed by a recitation from the Holy Quran. Subsequently, a video documentary highlighting the project's objectives and activities was presented.

2.0 Proceedings

2.1 Opening session

Mr. Md. Rezaul Maksud Jahedi, Secretary, Local Government Division has graced the occasion as a chief guest. Mr. Md. Shajahan Mia, Additional Secretary, LGD & Administrator of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC), Mr. Md. Mahmudul Hasan, Director General (Planning), LGD and Ms. Iffat Mahmud, Senior Operations Officer, The World Bank & Task Team Leader (TTL), IUPHPS Project were presented as special guests. Mr. Abul Khair Mohammad Hafizullah Khan, Joint Secretary, LGD & Project Director, IUPHPS Project presided the session.

The Project Director, Mr. Abul Khair Mohammad Hafizullah Khan welcomed the Chief Guest, Special Guests, and other distinguished participants representing various ministries, directorates, institutes, universities, development partners, and national & international organizations. In his opening remarks, he delivered a presentation outlining the project overview, the current dengue situation in the context of the past two decades, and the overall objectives of the workshop, including proposed immediate actions for expert group deliberation and finalization, and highlighted key challenges (a summary of the presentation is outlined below). He also introduced the structure of the technical session, including the formation of four (4) working groups for focused discussions. Emphasizing the urgency of the situation, he highlighted the Secretary's strong commitment to control the mosquito during this peak period of dengue transmission, as well as the keen interest of the Task Team Leader of IUPHPSP in taking immediate action to curb the outbreak. He further noted that the recommendations emerging from this workshop would be disseminated nationwide to support coordinated action across Bangladesh.

Mr. ATM Saiful Islam, Additional Secretary of the Health Service Division (HSD), MOHFW, highlighted the serious threat posed by the dengue outbreak. He underscored the need for a multisectoral approach to effectively control the spread of dengue, involving key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Local Government Division, Health Service Division, and the Ministry of Housing and Public Works. He also outlined several initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, including the shift from central to local procurement of dengue diagnostic kits and logistics, the introduction of the National Dengue Prevention and Control Strategy (2024–2030) aimed at reducing infections and fatalities, and the revision of a National guideline for Clinical Management of Dengue Syndrome.

Mr. Md. Mahmudul Hasan, Director General of Planning, LGD, stated that the IUPHPS project is built on a strong foundation and is well-positioned to achieve its targets on time. He highlighted the project's potential to develop human resources focused on research and preventive strategies for controlling dengue in Bangladesh. He noted that the workshop is particularly valuable for incorporating expert opinions into the formulation of a strategic immediate action plan to prevent dengue outbreaks. Additionally, he emphasized the importance of a citizen-centered approach and the practice of citizen reviews, guided by the respected Secretary of LGD.

Mr. Md. Shajahan Mia, Additional Secretary of LGD and Administrator of DSCC, connected his remarks to public health and the five components of the IUPHPS project. He shared recent data on dengue fever, noting that only seven patients were residents of DSCC, while the majority came from outside the city corporation. He highlighted the ongoing Saturday visits to different DSCC zones alongside the Honourable Secretary of LGD, as part of the mosquito control program during this peak dengue season. He urged participants to utilize the National Guidelines for the prevention of mosquito-borne diseases, including dengue, while developing the immediate action plan in

group work. Emphasizing the importance of public engagement, he stressed the need to eliminate environments that enable *Aedes* mosquitoes to breed and bite.

Ms. Iffat Mahmud, Senior Operations Officer at The World Bank and Task Team Leader of the IUPHPS Project, noted that while the project may have a relatively modest budget, it is highly innovative in its approach. She emphasized that the IUPHPS project presents a unique opportunity in collaboration with the Health Service Division—not only to address vector-borne diseases but also to tackle broader public health challenges, including improper disposal of medical waste from outhouses, air and noise pollution, extreme heat, and the impacts of climate change. During her remarks, she highlighted key considerations for group discussions, including:

- Appropriate selection of insecticides, considering the mutation of mosquito biology and virus strains
- Identifying ecological imbalances to improve targeted mosquito control
- Strengthening household-level dengue surveillance
- Ensuring timely fogging, ideally before the onset of the rainy season
- Defining immediate actions that can be taken during the current dengue season

She also pointed out the distinct differences between urban and rural contexts, noting that action plans should be adapted accordingly. If the project's pilot interventions prove successful, the activities are expected to be scaled up nationwide.

Finally, the chief guest, Honourable Secretary, LGD, Mr. Md. Rezaul Maksud Jahedi addressed that "Improvement of Urban Public Health Preventive Services Project" (IUPHPSP) has been predicated on the growing concern over the frequent prevalence and increasing rate of dengue fever and importance of the capital city, Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC), Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) and its adjacent two municipalities, Savar and Tarabo, as well as commercial city Chattogram City Corporation (CCC). These City Corporations and Municipalities have been selected as project area. After successful implementation, potential outputs/outcomes will be replicated to other city corporations and municipalities in the future.

He expressed that over the last few years, the incidence of dengue fever has reached alarming levels, leading to a significant public health threat and resulting in substantial morbidity, mortality, and economic burden. In consideration of this critical situation, he spoke about the comprehensive, an integrated, evidence-based strategic response plan is imperative to alleviate the severity of dengue and related arboviruses on the population's health and well-being. Out of this realization, IUPHPSP has rightly decided to organize a workshop with the participation of the representatives of all the stakeholders to formulate an action plan to initiate prompt response to meet the current situation. Mr. Secretary noted that present workshop has successfully ensured the assemblage of the renowned scientists and researchers and development activists having expertise in vector control and management. Many of participants have also an exposure on vector management issue from global perspective and their valued participation in the workshop would contribute to enable us to come out with a concrete plan of action to face the current situation in respect of vector management. Viewed from this standpoint, the present workshop is expected to facilitate an excellent opportunity to find out many pragmatic recommendations for undertaking timely measures/action for targeting the current situation in respect of dengue escalation in the project areas and all over the country as well.

He discouraged the peace meal program from which the citizen actually is not getting any sustainable benefit. In his speech, he gave importance on sustainable technology, identify the main problem and sort out the solution through effective immediate action plan. He directed to find out

the cause of dengue outbreak in the highest dengue prone district Barguna. At the same time, we are also to bear in mind that the successful implementation of the workshop's recommendations is heavily contingent upon the active participation of all the relevant stakeholders (Officials of City Corporations and Municipalities, and the Officials of other related Ministries and Agencies and the Local Communities of the project area) from their respective work places.

He proposed several activities, including water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs, canal excavation initiatives (*khal khanan karmasuchi*), cleanliness drives, and public awareness campaigns. He also emphasized the need for a comprehensive budget to procure essential equipment, machinery, and maintain laboratories for dengue prevention efforts. Additionally, he highlighted the importance of efficient use of resources—such as manpower, funds, and logistics.

Finally, the chief guest extended his special thanks to all who have responded to the invitation and taken a lot of trouble to join the workshop. He also expressed the hope that the workshop would come out with its long-cherished desire for an immediate action plan to prevent dengue outbreak in Bangladesh.

With these few words, he concluded his speech and declared the workshop open.

2.2 Participants

A full list of attendees is provided at the end of this report (Annex 2). The names of the expert group members who contributed to the workshop discussions are listed in Annex 3.

2.3 Chairperson and the Rapporteur

The workshop was chaired by Mr. Abul Khair Mohammad Hafizullah Khan, Joint Secretary, Local Government Division (LGD) and Project Director, IUPHPSP. Dr. Sharmin Mizan, PhD, Public Health Specialist, and Mr. AJ Minhaj Uddin Ahmed, Capacity Building (Training) Specialist, served as Rapporteurs. The facilitation of the workshop, overall coordination of group work and the finalization of the Immediate Action Plan to Prevent Dengue Outbreak in Bangladesh, based on the expert group recommendations, were led by Mr. Rajib Chowdhury, Vector Management Specialist.

2.4 Presentation

The summary of the presentation by Mr. Abul Khair Mohammad Hafizullah Khan, Joint Secretary, Local Government Division (LGD) and Project Director of IUPHPSP, is provided below:

Project Objectives

- To strengthen the capacity of vector (mosquito) management
- To improve outhouse medical waste management
- To mitigate air and sound pollution and climate change impacts on public health
- To conduct awareness programmes through Behavior Change Communication (BCC) strategies for –
    - vector (mosquito) control
    - improving outhouse medical waste management
    - mitigation of air and sound pollution and climate change impacts on public health
- Establish preventive facilities for non-communicable diseases (NCDs)

The IUPHPS Project is set to be implemented between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2028, covering five urban and peri-urban areas: Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC), Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), Chattogram City Corporation (CCC), Savar Paurashava in Dhaka, and Tarabo Paurashava in Narayanganj. This strategic focus reflects the urgent need for intervention, as dengue has evolved from sporadic outbreaks in the early 2000s to a persistent public health crisis. Yearly and monthly data from 2000 to July 2025 show a sharp upward trajectory in both cases and fatalities, particularly since 2019. In 2023 alone, Bangladesh reported over 321,179 dengue cases and 1,705 deaths—more than triple the total cases recorded in 2019—while by July 2025, 19,923 cases and 78 deaths had already been documented nationwide. Alarmingly, dengue cases were reported across all 64 districts in 2025, indicating a broader geographic spread than in previous years. The peak transmission period, typically from July to November, coincides with ideal breeding conditions for *Aedes* mosquitoes, further emphasizing the need for timely and targeted vector control measures.

The IUPHPS Project outlines the following key scopes for strengthening vector management in Bangladesh:

- Establish a central Integrated Vector Management Unit (IVMU) to coordinate national efforts
- Set up an entomology laboratory, insectarium, and training center to support research and capacity building
- Develop an entomological workforce and early warning systems for timely outbreak detection and response
- Conduct research on mosquito biology, insecticide resistance, vector surveillance, and identify effective control methods
- Formulate a national policy and Integrated Vector Management (IVM) guidelines, including standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Equip city corporations and paurashavas with trained personnel and essential vector control tools

The following immediate actions have been proposed to prevent a dengue outbreak in Bangladesh:

- Apply Temephos 1% sand granules and Novaluron (an insect growth regulator) in stagnant water sources (vector breeding habitats)
- Conduct indoor fogging using WHO-approved insecticides such as *Cielo ULV* or *Fludora Co-max*
- Use insecticidal paint in water reservoirs of under-construction buildings to target immature mosquito stages for control
- Ensure the use of insecticide-treated bed nets for hospitalized dengue patients
- Implement school-based health education campaigns focused on source reduction and awareness
- Provide training for vector control staff and
- Strengthen legislative measures to promote community engagement

Several challenges have hindered effective dengue control operations in Bangladesh, including:

- Weak coordination and planning across various administrative levels
- Incomplete disease surveillance data**,** limiting timely and informed decision-making
- Absence of baseline data on vector populations and lack of sentinel surveillance systems
- Shortage of trained entomologists and skilled personnel for vector control activities
- No established monitoring of insecticide resistance or chemical testing to ensure the quality and efficacy of vector control products
- Insufficient funding for operational and implementation research

2.5 Immediate Action Plan to Prevent Dengue Outbreak in Bangladesh

The invited experts were divided into four distinct groups, considering their expertise. During the workshop, they reviewed and discussed key thematic areas critical to strengthening dengue control efforts:

- **Group 1: Available polices, regulations & legislations, limitations and gaps** –Assessed existing national and local policies, regulations, and legal frameworks related to vector control. Identified limitations in enforcement, coordination, and policy coherence, highlighting the need for updated legislation and clearer institutional mandates.
- **Group 2: Existing surveillance (disease and vector), limitations, and challenges** – Evaluated current disease and entomological surveillance mechanisms. Noted challenges in data integration, timeliness, and geographic coverage, with recommendations to enhance inter-agency coordination and digital reporting platforms.
- **Group 3: Tools and interventions for immediate actions to reduce vector density (special focus on insecticides)** – Reviewed available vector control tools with a special focus on insecticide use. Emphasized the importance of deploying WHO-prequalified products, strengthening operational protocols, and ensuring rapid response capacity in high-risk areas.
- **Group 4: Current options on the community engagements and their operational limitations** – Explored current approaches to community mobilization and awareness. Identified operational limitations such as inconsistent messaging, limited outreach capacity, and lack of sustained behavioral change strategies.

The Immediate Action Plan to Prevent Dengue Outbreak in Bangladesh has been developed based on the recommendations of the four expert groups, as outlined below:

Immediate Action Plan to Prevent Dengue Outbreak in Bangladesh

Objectives	Activities	Action points	Supporting agency	Timeframe
Key area: Policy, regulation & legislation				
To ensure concerted and whole-of-government actions	Develop/ finalize the National policy and Integrated Vector Management Guideline (IVM), including related SOPs	Ensure funding for developing/finalizing the National policy and Integrated Vector Management Guideline, including related SOPs	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc. DGHS/HSD	October 2026
	Develop rules and regulations for the implementation of 'The Communicable Diseases (Prevention, Control and Elimination) Act, 2018'	Drafting of rules and regulations by the Ministry and taking actions in all the City Corporations, Municipalities and other stakeholders	HSD	December 2026
	Local Government (Municipalities) Act, 2009 (Act No. 58 of 2009) & Local Government (City Corporation) Act, 2009 (Act No. 60 of 2009)	Act(s) should be reviewed, allowing health to render public health care in the urban areas, as well as in rural areas. The Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives does not have any specific mandate for urban health in its rules of business.	Local Government Division	December 2026
	Enhance the legislative actions for ensuring community engagement	Establish mechanisms to inform communities about their obligation to reduce breeding sites and potential legal actions	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	October 2026
Key area: Surveillance				
Disease surveillance				

Objectives	Activities	Action points	Supporting agency	Timeframe
To improve knowledge of the current epidemic for public health action	Improve the data quality of the currently reporting sites	Improve consistent reporting of current sentinel sites (including continuous zero-reporting) with standardised templates	DGHS/ HSD	December 2026
	Trained human resources and sustainable funding	Strengthen the capacity of currently reporting sites as well as the control room (HR, logistics - equipment)	DGHS/ HSD	December 2026
		Daily monitoring of data reporting sites for consistency & feedback	DGHS/ HSD	December 2026
	Include more sentinel sites/ reporting sites	Mobilise the private sector to report	DGHS/ HSD	September 2026
	Develop an SOP for serotyping	Define which samples need to undergo serotyping (representative samples; clinical picture)	IEDCR/ HSD	October 2026
	Hot spot mapping	Analyse surveillance data based on geography and age/gender	DGHS/ HSD	October 2026
Key area: Vector surveillance				
To improve vector surveillance for targeted public health action	Improve hot-spot identification/ mapping	Timely, sustainable vector surveillance for both immature and adult stages collection (year-round), and use of innovative technologies as appropriate (modern equipment, app-based, drone, AI, etc.), emphasizing countrywide	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	December 2026
		Established a sentinel surveillance system for vectors	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	December 2026
		Establish a mechanism for the detection of viruses, including their serotypes identification in mosquitoes	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	December 2026

Objectives	Activities	Action points	Supporting agency	Timeframe
		Integrate vector- and case-based surveillance data to identify hot spots of breeding sites versus cases	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc. and DGHS/ HSD	December 2026
		Feasibility of citizen science-based approach for disease and vector surveillance	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc. and DGHS/ HSD	June 2027
Key area: Vector control				
To improve the targeted use of vector-control resources to reduce the burden in priority areas	Judicious use of insecticides for better outcomes	Ensure rigorous chemical (active ingredient) testing of insecticides to verify product quality before procurement from WHO-certified laboratories	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	January 2027
		Conduct phenotypic and genotypic assessments of insecticide resistance in mosquito populations at both larval and adult stages	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	January 2027
		Conduct periodic bio-efficacy tests to verify the effectiveness of insecticides and larvicides against target mosquito species	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	January 2027
To improve vector control methods	Explore new insecticides/ technologies	Use Temephos 1% Sand Granule in the stagnant water, i.e., flooded floor (small to medium)	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	October 2026
		Use Novaluron (insect growth regulator (IGR) class) in the stagnant water (large water containers & flowless drains)	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	October 2026
		Indoor space spraying with a hand-held fogger using an effective insecticide formulation, i.e., Cielo ULV or Fludora Co-max (WHO prequalified)	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	November 2026

Objectives	Activities	Action points	Supporting agency	Timeframe
		Ensure the use of insecticide-treated bed-nets for at least dengue inpatients (in the hospital)	DGHS/ HSD	November 2026
		Apply Insecticidal paint for immature stage control (alpha-cypermethrin 0.7% & Piriproxifen 0.063%) in the water tank under the construction house	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	January 2027 (after small-scale pretesting)
		Establish mechanisms to inform communities about their obligation to reduce vector breeding sites and potential legal actions	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	October 2026
		Explore the opportunity to implement novel/ technology-based interventions (such as Wolbachia, sterile insect technique and genetically modified mosquitoes).	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	Large-scale field trial required
	WHO-prequalified products must be procured	Utilize WHO-prequalified products for vector control to ensure optimal effectiveness and public health impact	LGD, City corporation, Paurashava, etc. DGHS/ LSD	December 2026
To strengthen entomological capacity	Build entomological capacity	Train entomologists, entomology technicians and vector control staff involved in vector surveillance & control	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc. and DGHS/ HSD	July 2025
Key area: Community engagement				
To increase community awareness for	Develop key public health messages and ensure distribution	Develop health education guidelines on dengue preventive measures	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc. and DGHS/ HSD	December 2026

Objectives	Activities	Action points	Supporting agency	Timeframe
the prevention of dengue		Coordinate messages and means of communication (SMS, billboard messages, social media, involvement of teachers, caretakers, students, religious leaders, community leaders as multipliers, workplace, etc.)	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc. and DGHS/ HSD BTRC, BRTA	October 2026
		Produce short videos for educational institutes	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	October 2026
		Deliver messages for the elimination of vector breeding sources	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc.	October 2026
		Develop messages according to warning signs	LGD, DGHS/ HSD	October 2026
		Consider establishing a hotline for patients	DGHS/ HSD	October 2026
	Eliminate vector breeding habitats from the government hospital premises, including a 500-meter radius, and remove unused vehicles from government offices, standing wagons from railway junctions and some mosquito-prone areas in cantonment premises	Initiatives need to be taken to eliminate vector breeding habitats from the government hospital premises, including a 500-meter radius	LGD, City Corporation, Paurashava, etc. and DGHS/ HSD	December 2026
		Ensure the prompt and proper disposal of all unused vehicles from government office premises, including standing wagons from railway junctions	All Ministries	December 2026

3.0 Open discussion

Following the group presentations, an open discussion session was held, moderated by the Project Director, Mr. Abul Khair Mohammad Hafizullah Khan. During the session:

Dr. Sabera Sultana, NPO, CDS, WHO, emphasized the need for a distinct operational strategy.

Mr. Md. Samsul Islam, Joint Secretary, LGD, encouraged the adoption of innovative technologies such as drones and mobile applications.

Prof. Dr. Md Golam Sharower, NIPSOM, stressed the importance of quality analysis of the active ingredients in larvicides and adulticides. He strongly recommended monitoring household surveillance based on population size and the number of households, noting the challenge posed by the limited number of vector control workers in covering all areas of DNCC and DSCC.

Dr. Dinesh Mondal from icddr,b suggested involving the Ministry of Religion to instruct Imams to announce rooftop garden cleaning after the Azan.

Prof. Dr. Rashedul Islam, Kurigram Agriculture University, recommended proper training for larva identification, source detection through surveillance systems, and research into existing chemical ingredients to assess mosquito resistance and develop new solutions. He also cautioned that insecticides could harm the environment and affect other animal and insect species. He emphasized that current dengue surveillance is hospital-based and called for identifying disease hotspots.

Mr. Abdus Salam, Joint Secretary, LGD, highlighted the importance of solid waste management. He suggested that the outcomes and immediate action plans from the workshop could be replicated in 330 *Paurashavas* across Bangladesh and called for regular monitoring and follow-up by the project team.

Ms. Iffat Mahmud, Task Team Leader of the IUPHPSP from The World Bank, requested BUET to share modern technologies like drones and AI-based apps, and icddr,b to explore the idea of using larva-attracting paint. She also underscored the need to apply insecticides with consideration for potential ecological impacts.

Finally, the **Project Director of the IUPHPS Project** announced that a wide range of training programs would be offered through the project to enhance the skills of mosquito control workers, community members, and volunteers. He also shared that Chattogram City Corporation (CCC) has shown interest in organizing a baseline workshop on this issue. Despite the absence of a fund release, the project has already taken proactive steps by providing mosquito control equipment to stakeholders as part of its immediate action plan.

3.1 Wrap-up Session

At the conclusion of the session, Mr. Md. Shajahan Mia, Additional Secretary of the Local Government Division (LGD) and Administrator of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC), emphasized several key strategies for enhancing dengue control efforts:

Insecticide Efficacy: He stressed that insecticides used should demonstrate an effectiveness rate exceeding 95%.

Data-Driven Source Identification: Utilizing data trends from the past decade, coupled with Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping, is crucial for pinpointing mosquito breeding sources.

Assessment of Insecticide Longevity: It's important to analyze the duration of effectiveness of current insecticides and to research new formulations that are safe for human health.

Crush Program Success: Initiatives involving intensive cleaning and targeted insecticide distribution have shown positive results in reducing dengue outbreaks.

Guideline Updates: He called for expert input to revise and enhance existing dengue control guidelines.

Environmental Considerations: Rainwater harvesting, particularly in areas outside Dhaka like Barguna district, has been identified as a contributing factor to dengue proliferation. The changing weather patterns, with rain occurring throughout the year beyond the traditional monsoon months, necessitate environmentally friendly action plans.

Community Engagement: Mr. Mia advocated for increased social mobilization and public awareness through mass media campaigns, mosque announcements, distribution of informational leaflets, and home visits to effectively control dengue outbreaks.

4.0 Distribution of equipment

Under the IUPHPS Project, mosquito control equipment—including fogger machines, wheelbarrow sprayers, steel-body spray pumps, and PPE—was planned for urgent distribution to strengthen vector control activities in the implementation areas: DSCC, DNCC, CCC, Savar, and Tarabo Paurashavas. As part of this initiative, Mr. Md. Rezaul Maksud Jahedi, Secretary of the Local Government Division, formally inaugurated the distribution by donating token equipment to the aforementioned areas.

Annex – 1

Concept Paper and Workshop Schedule

Workshop on Developing Immediate Action Plan to Prevent Dengue Outbreak in Bangladesh

Background:
Bangladesh continues to grapple with rising dengue outbreaks, which place substantial strain on both public health systems and local communities. The transmission capacity of *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* has intensified due to rapid urbanization, climatic fluctuations, and behavioral dynamics. While progress has been made in surveillance and clinical care, vector control efforts remain fragmented and lack cohesive implementation. In the recent couple of months, dengue incidence has surged to critical levels, presenting a serious public health concern and leading to elevated morbidity, mortality, and economic losses. Though government bodies have launched various preventive initiatives to limit the spread, transmission persists.

Given this urgent scenario, a comprehensive, evidence-informed strategic response is vital to mitigate the health and societal impact of dengue and associated arboviruses. To address these challenges, the upcoming workshop will bring together public health experts, entomologists, key ministries, local government entities, academic and research organizations, and other stakeholders. This collaborative forum will facilitate the evaluation of current efforts, pinpoint gaps in implementation, and promote consensus on effective, sustainable vector control practices—from source reduction and environmental management to molecular xenosurveillance and strategic risk communication. **Accordingly, an immediate action plan to control the Dengue outbreak in Bangladesh will be developed.**

Objectives:
1. Develop an actionable roadmap for dengue vector management.
2. Strengthen intersectoral collaboration for vector surveillance using innovative tools and technologies, and control.

Expected Outcomes:
- A harmonized strategy (immediate action plan) for dengue vector management adapted to Bangladesh's urban and peri-urban contexts.
- Draft technical guidance on evidence-based and resource-feasible interventions.
- Enhanced stakeholder commitment and clearly delineated roles across sectors including capacity-building for field teams.

Date and Venue: 30 July 2025 and; Crystal Ballroom, Hotel Intercontinental, 1 Minto Road, Dhaka- 1000

Workshop Schedule

Time	Activity
09:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	Registration
10:00 a.m.-10:05 a.m.	Arrival of guests and take their seats
10:05 a.m.-10:10 a.m.	Recitation from the Holy Quran
10:10 a.m.-10:15 a.m.	Illustration of the project's video documentary
10:20 a.m.-11:10 a.m.	**Opening session** • Welcome Speech & concept of today's workshop **Mr. Abul Khair Mohammad Hafizullah Khan** Joint Secretary, LGD & Project Director, IUPHPS Project • **Speech from Special Guests** **Mr. A H M Kamruzzaman** Additional Secretary, Local Government Division **Ms. Iffat Mahmud** Senior Operations Officer, The World Bank & Task Team Leader, IUPHPS Project • **Speech of Chief Guest** **Mr. Md. Rezaul Maksud Jahedi** Secretary, Local Government Division
11:10 a.m.-11:20 a.m.	Group formation for developing the immediate action plan
11:20 a.m.-11:40 a.m.	Tea/ Coffee break
11:40 a.m.- 12:40 p.m.	**Group Work (Technical Experts):** Brainstorm, discuss, and prepare responses to reduce the transmission of dengue by controlling *Aedes* mosquitoes. - Are there any policies/regulations and action plans in place? Are those adequate? What are the gaps? - What are the challenges of existing interventions in terms of implementation? - What are the alternative tools/interventions that can be applied immediately to reduce the vector (*Aedes* mosquitoes) density to stop the dengue transmission? - What are the challenges/ barriers in sensitizing the communities to reduce the source reduction (mosquito breeding habitats) to mitigate the health risk and preferred approaches? - What role can Local Government Division and other Ministries play in implementing interventions and mobilizing communities? - What are the collaborative opportunities to reduce the health risk?
12:40 p.m.- 01:00 p.m.	**Group presentation, discussion, and remarks from the participants**
01:00 p.m.- 01:05 p.m.	**Closing remarks**
01:10 p.m.	**Lunch**

Group work:
Group 1: Available polices, regulations & legislations, limitations and gaps
Group 2: Existing surveillance (disease and vector), limitations, and challenges
Group 3: Tools and interventions for immediate actions to reduce vector density (Special focus on insecticides)
Group 4: Current options on the community engagements and their operational limitations

Annex – 2

Participants of the workshop (Total 74)

Local Government Division	
Mr. Md. Rezaul Maksud Jahedi Secretary	Mr. A H M Kamruzzaman Additional Secretary
Ms. Surayya Akhter Jahan Additional Secretary	Md. Mahmudul Hasan, NDC Director General Monitoring Inspection and Evaluation Wing
Mr. Muhammad Abdus Salam Joint Secretary	Mr. Md. Samsul Islam Joint Secretary
Ms. Mahbuba Ireen Joint Secretary	Mr. Md. Firoj Mahmud Deputy Secretary
Ms. Jasmin Prodhan Senior Assistant Secretary	Md. Abdullah-Al-Noman Sarker PS To Secretary
Md Mosharef Hossain Senior Assistant Secretary	Ms. Nashid Nawajesh Chief Accounts and Finance Officer
Project Management Unit	
Mr. Abul Khair Mohammad Hafizullah Khan Joint Secretary, Local Government Division & Project Director	Mr. Ziaur Rahman Deputy Secretary, Local Government Division & Deputy Project Director
Md. Aminul Islam Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist	Dr. Md. Billal Hossain Environment Specialist
Dr. Mohd. Sher Ali Project Management Specialist	Mr. S M Abdul Mottalib Financial Specialist
Mr. Md. Anwarul Islam Procurement Specialist	Mr. Md. Enamul Hoque Behaviour Change Communication Specialist
Mr. Rajib Chowdhury Vector Management Specialist	Mr. Md. Zahid Hossain Medical Waste Management Specialist
Mr. Shams Uddin Md. Rafi Social Specialist	Dr. Sharmin Mizan, PhD Public Health Specialist
Mr. Sk. Mahabub Ahmed Management Information System Specialist	Mr. AJ Minhaj Uddin Ahmed Capacity Building (Training) Specialist
Dhaka South City Corporation	
Mr. Md. Johirul Islam Chief Executive Officer	Dr. Nishat Parvin Chief Health Officer
Dhaka North City Corporation	
Mr. Mohamad Ashaduz Zaman Chief Executive Officer	Brig. General Imru-al-Quais Chief Health Officer (unable to attend)
Dr. Emdadul Hoque Deputy Chief Health Officer	Mr. Kbd. Md. Asif Iqubal Senior Insect Control Officer
Chattogram City Corporation	
Mr. Sheikh Mohammed Tauhidul Islam Chief Executive Officer	Dr. Mohammad Imam Hossain Chief Health Officer
Mr. Md. Shorful Islam Mahi Malaria & Mosquito Control Officer	

Savar Paurashava	
Mr. Md. Abubakor Sakar Upazila Nirbahi Officer	Mr. Md. Sayedul Islam Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Kazi Aysha Siddique Medical Officer	
Tarabo Paurashava	
Mr. Md. Saiful Islam Upazila Nirbahi Officer	Mr. Md. Moniruzzaman Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Abdul Matin Sanitary Inspector	
The World Bank	
Ms. Iffat Mahmud Senior Operations Officer	Mr. Wameq Rea Senior Health Specialist
Mr. Iqbal Ahmed Senior Environment Specialist	Mr. Md. Atikuzzaman
Health Service Division, MOH&FW	
Mr. A. T. M Saiful Islam Additional Secretary (Public Health)	
Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS)	
Prof. Dr. Md. Farhad Hussain Director Disease Control	Prof. Dr. Md. Halimur Rashid Line Director CDC
Dr. Ashrafun Nahar Deputy Director CDC & M&PDC CDC	Dr. Shyamol Kumer Das DPM, Malaria & ATDC Program CDC
Mr Rajaul Karim Khan Senior Entomologist CDC	Mr. Altab Hossain Entomologist CDC
Mr Khalilur Rahman Entomologist CDC	
Bureau of Health Education, DGHS	
Mr. Khondokar Bodrul Alam Deputy Chief	Mr. Md. Atiqur Rahaman Assistant Chief
Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research (IEDCR)	
Prof. Dr. Tahmina Shirin Director	Dr. Rozina Afroz Senior Scientific Officer Entomology Department
Dr. Fariha Masfiqua Scientific Officer Entomology Department	
National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSOM)	
Prof. Dr. Md Golam Sharower Head Department of Entomology	
Bangladesh Meteorological Department, Ministry of Defense	
Mr. Md. Momenul Islam Director Bangladesh Meteorological Department	

World Health Organization, Bangladesh	
Dr. Sabera Sultana National Professional Officer CDS Unit	Dr. ASM Alamgir National Professional Officer WHE Unit (unable to attend)
Dr. Syeda Tahmina Ferdous Jinia Programme Officer (NCD-MH)	Mr. Md. Jewel Rana Programme Officer CDS Unit
UNICEF	
Dr. Hasnain Ahmed Health Officer (unable to attend)	Mst. Saleha Khatun WASH Officer (unable to attend)
Mr. Mohammad Badrul Hassan (unable to attend) SBC Manager	Mr. Matthias Lutharo WASH Officer
Research & Academic Institute	
Dr Dinesh Mondal Senior Scientist icddr,b	Dr. Mohammad Shafiul Alam Scientist icddr,b
Mr. Debashis Ghosh Associate Scientist icddr,b	Prof. Tangin Akter Department of Zoology Dhaka University (unable to attend)
Prof. Dr. Rashedul Islam VC, Kurigram Agriculture University Kurigram	Prof. Dr. Be-Nazir Ahmed Former Director CDC, DGHS
Prof. Dr. Mahmudur Rahman (unable to attend) Former Director IEDCR	Prof. Taufiq Hasan Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering; and Director, mHealth Research Group Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Dhaka

Annex – 3

Names of the group members and the overall coordination

Group Members: 1

Prof. Dr. Md. Farhad Hussain, Director, Disease Control, DGHS
Mr. Md. Momenul Islam, Director, Bangladesh Meteorological Department
Prof. Dr. Be-Nazir Ahmed, ex-Director, CDC, DGHS
Prof. Dr. Md Golam Sharower, Head, Dept of Entomology, NIPSOM
Dr. Ashrafun Nahar, Deputy Director, CDC & M&PDC, CDC, DGHS
Dr. Sabera Sultana, NPO, CDS, WHO
Mr. Shams Uddin Md. Rafi, Social Specialist, IUPHPSP, LGD (**Facilitator**)

Group Members: 2

Prof. Dr. Rashedul Islam, VC, Kurigram Agriculture University
Prof. Taufiq Hasan, Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering, BUET
Prof. Dr. Md. Halimur Rashid, Line Director, CDC, DGHS
Dr. Dinesh Mondal, Senior Scientist, icddr,b
Dr. Mohammad Shafiul Alam, Scientist, icddr,b
Mr. Asif Iqbal, Senior Pest Control Officer, DNCC
Mr. Md. Jewel Rana, Programme Officer, CDS, WHO
Mr. Md. Zahid Hossain, Medical Waste Management Specialist, IUPHPSP, LGD (**Facilitator**)

Group Members: 3

Dr. Shyamol Kumer Das, DPM, Malaria & ATDC Program, CDC, DGHS
Dr. Nishat Parvin, Chief Health Officer, DSCC
Dr. Emdadul Hoque, Deputy Chief Health Officer, DNCC
Dr. Fariha Masfiqua, Scientific Officer, Entomology Department, IEDCR
Dr. Kazi Aysha Siddique, Medical Officer, Savar Paurashava
Mr. Md. Shorful Islam Mahi, Malaria & Mosquito Control Officer, CCC
Mr. Debashis Ghosh, Associate Scientist, icddr,b
Mr. Altab Hossain, Entomologist, CDC, DGHS
Mr. Khalilur Rahman, Entomologist, CDC, DGHS
Mr. Sk. Mahabub Ahmed, MIS Specialist, IUPHPSP, LDG (**Facilitator**)

Group Members: 4

Mr. Khondokar Bodrul Alam, Deputy Chief, Bureau of Health Education, DGHS
Mr. Md. Atiqur Rahaman, Assistant Chief, Bureau of Health Education, DGHS
Dr. Rozina Afroz, Senior Scientific Officer, Entomology Department, IEDCR
Md. Sajedul Islam, Pauro Nirbahi Officer, Savar Municipality
Md. Shariful Islam Bhuiyan, Pauro Nirbahi Officer, Tarabo Paurashava
Mr. Matthias Lutharo, WASH Officer, UNICEF
Dr. Syeda Tahmina Ferdous Jinia, Programme Officer, WHO
Md. Arifuzzaman Khan, Deputy CAFO, LGD
Dr. Sharmin Mizan, PhD, Public Health Specialist, IUPHPSP, LGD (**Facilitator**)

Overall Coordination: Rajib Chowdhury, Vector Management Specialist, IUPHPSP, LGD