

AdSEARCH BITES

Volume 1 | Issue 1 | January 2024

As we embark on 2024, the AdSEARCH by icddr,b team extends profound gratitude for the steadfast support, that has shaped a progressive year. In this inaugural AdSEARCH Bites issue, we reflect on our collective achievements, celebrating significant milestones in the realm of Sexual and Reproductive

Health and Rights (SRHR) in 2023. Embracing the spirit of 'Advancing Knowledge, Generating Evidence, and Influencing Policy and Programme', we eagerly anticipate the continuation of collaborative progress in SRHR.

44+ Exclusive SRHR studies and activities ongoing

20+ Innovation study funded

20+ Distinct locations



WORK PACKAGE - 1

Population-based studies

4 Cohort studies ongoing

2 Epidemiological studies ongoing

March 2021 till December 2023

2023 Recap



AdSEARCH organised a Technical Consultative Workshop on the first cohort study in Bangladesh that will investigate the SRHR issues of unmarried adolescents living in rural Bangladesh.

19 February 2023

[Read more >](#)



Kick-off meeting for co-creating and co-designing implementation plan of high-quality maternal health services and pregnancy cohort study at EPI Bhaban, Mohakhali, Dhaka.

28 March 2023

[Read more >](#)



GAC Representative visited the Adolescent cohort and Key Population surveillance study at Baliakandi and Jashore field sites.

23 May 2023

[Read more >](#)



Research Advisory Group (RAG) meeting on SRHR of female garment workers living in three urban slums of Bangladesh was held.

11 July 2023

[Read more >](#)



GAC representative visited one of the very first cohort studies of newlywed couples in Bangladesh at Chakaria, Cox's Bazar.

10 August 2023

[Read more >](#)



WORK PACKAGE - 2

Facility-based studies

8 Facility-based studies under implementation

March 2021 till December 2023

2023 Recap



AdSEARCH organised a Co-design Workshop on enabling service provision for Adolescents in a Rural Area in Bangladesh at Baliakandi Upazila Health Complex, Rajbari.

31 July 2023

[Read more >](#)



AdSEARCH inaugurates a new study programme at Rajbari on strengthening maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health services.

17 October 2023

[Read more >](#)



AdSEARCH supports the largest survey to assess obstetric fistula burden in Bangladesh.

14 December 2023

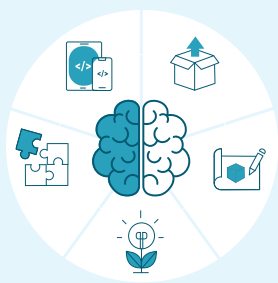
[Read more >](#)



Inauguration of a Digital Data Register System for managing infertility and high-risk pregnancy at BSMMU.

24 December 2023

[Read more >](#)



WORK PACKAGE - 3

Innovation hub for SRHR interventions

20

Studies under AdSEARCH Evidence and Innovation Hub are ongoing

March 2021 till December 2023

2023 Recap



Sensitisation workshop to improve SRHR knowledge and practices among orphan adolescent girls by 'HopeBox'.

28 February 2023

[Read more >](#)



Endorsement meeting of EGS implementation package by 'Improving Essential Gynaecological Healthcare' project.

26 April 2023

[Read more >](#)



Healthcare providers' training under 'Essential Gynaecological Skill' project at the district hospitals of Dinajpur and Kushtia.

23 to 29 May 2023

[Read more >](#)



The first Co-design Workshop of 'HopeBox' held.

21 May 2023

[Read more >](#)



Mukhorito team organised AdoVoice workshop for adolescents with ambassadors from the adolescent community from Bangla and English medium schools.

22 June 2023

[Read more >](#)



Launching Ceremony of the Pocket Colposcope to identify Cervical Cancer: Implementation research took place at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

25 July 2023

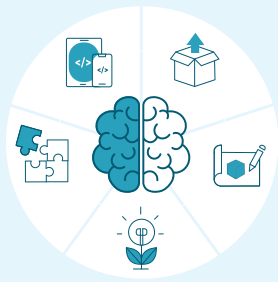
[Read more >](#)



Scientific seminar on Mental Wellbeing revealed around 49% of mothers in Bangladesh are facing mental health disorders.

1 November 2023

[Read more >](#)



WORK PACKAGE - 4

SRHR studies with Key Populations

1 Surveillance site with KP established

March 2021 till December 2023

2023 Recap



The study titled “Mapping the provision of SRHR services and Key Populations’ accessibility and affordability in selected districts of Bangladesh” initiated from April 2023.



A second round of data collection started for a surveillance system on SRHR of KPs at risk of compromised outcome of SRHR.



Baseline of the Evaluation of ICT-based intervention to promote essential SRHR services among sexual and gender diverse population initiated in Manikganj and Mymensingh.



WORK PACKAGE - 5

Service delivery

2,508 Beneficiaries covered under the intervention

March 2021 till December 2023

2023 Recap



GAC representative visits Nutri-CAP activity at Bauniabad slum at Mirpur, Dhaka.

31 January 2023

[Read more >](#)



Technical consultation workshop of Nutri-CAP.

20 March 2023

[Read more >](#)



Scientific Seminar "Dietary Diversity of Adolescent Girls in an Urban Slum Area of Dhaka City: Results from the Nutri-CAP Study".

13 December 2023

[Read more >](#)

COMPONENT 1

Capacity Development

1,300+ People brought under capacity development activities

March 2021 till December 2023



Orientation on capacity development activities under AdSEARCH on financial regulation, effective health communication, and monitoring and evaluation learning held.

31 January 2023

[Read more >](#)



Mainstreaming Gender and Rights in Public Health Research training was organised by AdSEARCH.

20 March 2023

[Read more >](#)

Recurring Workshops in 2023

- Advanced STATA Workshop on BDHS & MICS Dataset 2023: Based on Gender Equity & Rights
- AdSEARCH Capacity Development Workshop on thesis writing and data analysis
- AdSEARCH Capacity Development Knowledge sharing session on SRHR based on the Gutmacher-Lancet Commission
- AdSEARCH QualScience Initiatives
- AdSEARCH mainstreaming gender and rights in public health training

COMPONENT 2

Knowledge Translation and Communication

2 Studies ongoing | **6** Peer-Reviewed articles published

March 2021 till December 2023

AdSEARCH Publications 2023

Understanding the dynamics of Chemsex among men who have sex with men, male sex workers and transgender women in Dhaka, Bangladesh: a multiphase sequential mixed-method research protocol

Golam Sarwar, Samira Dishti Irfan, Masud Reza, Mohammad Niaz Morshed Khan, Sharful Islam Khan

PLoS One

[Read more >](#)

An uncharted territory of sexualized drug use: exploring the dynamics of chemsex among young and adolescent MSM including self-identified gay men in urban Dhaka, Bangladesh

Samira Dishti Irfan, Golam Sarwar, Junyed Emran, Sharful Islam Khan

Front. Psychol

[Read more >](#)

2023 Recap



icddr,b celebrates International Women's Day in collaboration with AdSEARCH.

7 March 2023

[Read more >](#)



National Conference 2023: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Bangladesh: Showcasing Research through Ideas, Ingenuity and Innovations (NCSRHR2023).

2 & 3 May 2023

[Read more >](#)



Innovation and Evidence Hub by AdSEARCH: Launched to drive advances in SRHR with 60 mentees and 22 mentors.

29 May 2023

[Read more >](#)



AdSEARCH participated in the 8th SRHR Knowledge Fair at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center in Dhaka.

7 September 2023

[Read more >](#)



AdSEARCH commemorates World Mental Health Day 2023.

10 September 2023

[Read more >](#)



AdSEARCH presented 'The Future of Intelligence in Pregnancy Monitoring in the Bangladesh Context' at the 'Transformative Smart Bangladesh Summit' organised by ICT division and a2i

30 - 31 October 2023

[Read more >](#)



Know Better, Act Better: Investing in Evidence to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls by AdSEARCH.

7 December 2023

[Read more >](#)



AdSEARCH presented 'Future of AI in Healthcare in Bangladesh' at the AI Festival 2023 organised by a2i.

7 December 2023

[Read more >](#)

COMPONENT 3

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

1 Study ongoing

AdSEARCH Management App & User guide, Meta Data, M&E manual development

March 2021 till December 2023

COMPONENT 4

Governance, Management and Coordination

8 PMT meetings organised

5 Thematic Working Group (TWG) meetings held

2 Think-Tank meetings organised

1 Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting held

6 Periodic consultations held with GAC officials

March 2021 till December 2023



AdSEARCH organised a TWG meeting on fertility and gynaecological issues.

28 February 2023

[Read more >](#)



GAC representatives visit AdSEARCH by icddr,b.

26 April 2023

[Read more >](#)



AdSEARCH holds the second 'Think Tank' Meeting at icddr,b.

23 to 29 May 2023

[Read more >](#)



AdSEARCH Technical Advisory Group inaugural meeting.

28 February 2023

[Read more >](#)

COMPONENT 5

SERVICES FOR SRHR BENEFICIARIES

Uddipto SRHR Counseling Center

919 Women and adolescent counselled | **15,281** Mothers/caregivers reached through group sessions

STI Services for Key Population

8,751 episodes of SRHR services provided to KPs

COVID-19 Lab Services

54,596 Suspected COVID-19 samples tested & **652** samples sequenced

March 2021 till October 2023

COLLABORATORS



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