

# Spotlight on Knowledge Translation

Bangladesh Learning Hub: June 2025



Led by JSI, Gavi's [Zero-Dose Learning Hub](#) (ZDLH) is a global learning initiative to generate evidence and engage stakeholders to identify and reach zero-dose (ZD) and under-immunized (UI) children. As the global learning partner, JSI supports Country Learning Hubs in Bangladesh, Mali, Nigeria, and Uganda to advance evidence-based strategies aligned with Gavi's Identify-Reach-Monitor and Measure-Advocacy (IRMMA) framework. Key ZDLH achievements include demand-driven technical assistance and the development of tools and resources, all aimed at reaching ZD children and integrating evidence into policy and practice.



Want to learn more about knowledge translation in global health? Download the ZDLH toolkit [Knowledge Translation for Zero-Dose Immunization Research](#), developed by JSI through the Gavi-funded ZDLH, to explore practical strategies for translating research into action.

## Translating Immunization Research into Action in Bangladesh

Knowledge translation (KT)—the systematic process of moving research into policy and practice—is at the core of the ZDLH's work. Since December 2023, the icddr,b-led [Bangladesh Learning Hub](#) has collaborated with government agencies, academic institutions, and civil society organizations to turn research evidence into concrete immunization solutions. Each stage of the KT process—dissemination, transmission, acquisition, application, and impact—helps translate evidence-based interventions, such as the e-screening checklist and evening immunization sessions, into concrete improvements in immunization services in Bangladesh.



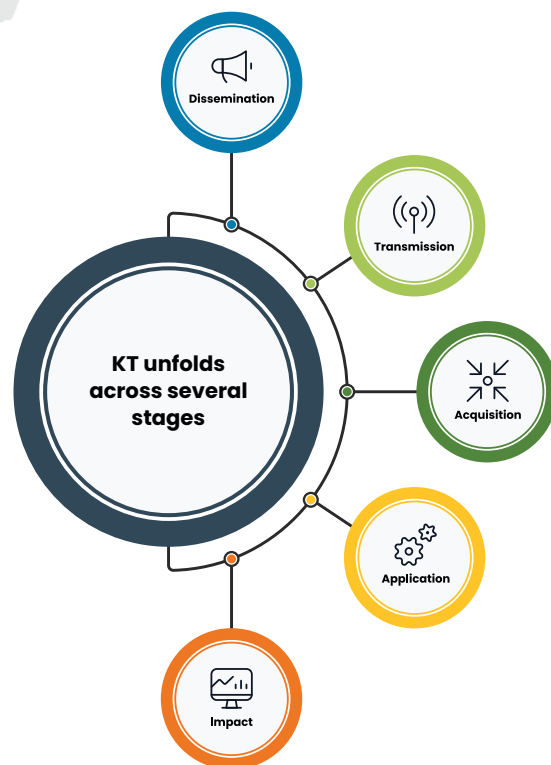
### Dissemination: Sharing Evidence to Drive Change

The Learning Hub disseminated research findings to stakeholders, including policymakers, health officials, and frontline workers. Knowledge products—such as research briefs, infographics, blog posts, social media content, and advocacy materials—highlighted immunization gaps and interventions, including evening Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) sessions, crash programs, and the e-screening checklist piloted in multiple upazilas. The [Bangladesh Learning Hub website](#) provided a central platform for sharing up-to-date research findings and advocacy resources, facilitating access to critical immunization evidence.



### Transmission: Tailoring Evidence for Decision-Makers

The Learning Hub tailored research findings for decision-makers through targeted policy dialogues, structured sub-national committee meetings, and routine EPI planning discussions. Detailed findings from household surveys among Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals and host communities were presented to stakeholders, including MOHFW, WHO, UNICEF, and the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner, documenting immunization coverage gaps and barriers faced by these populations. Additionally, meetings with Jhpiego, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), and management information system teams addressed strategies for improving the quality of immunization data in DHIS2, informing planned refinements to ZD and UI tracking processes.





### Acquisition: Stakeholder Engagement and Commitment

Government officials and frontline health workers recognized the importance of Learning Hub interventions and strategized operational improvements. In sub-national committee meetings, government representatives committed to ensuring timely vaccination for children identified through the e-screening checklist. Health inspectors committed to directly sharing lists of identified children with Upazila Health and Family Planning Officers to facilitate prompt vaccination follow-up. To overcome operational challenges such as limited digital literacy, UH&FPOs pledged to conduct refresher training sessions for frontline health workers, and icddr,b delivered training sessions for newly recruited government and non-governmental organization personnel in Dowarabazar and Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC).



### Application: Implementing Research-Based Solutions

In response to the Learning Hub's implementation research findings, the e-screening checklist was introduced across multiple upazilas, enhancing identification and follow-up of ZD and UI children. Additionally, research highlighted barriers faced by working mothers in urban slums who could not attend daytime EPI sessions due to work obligations. In collaboration with sub-national EPI teams, the Learning Hub introduced evening immunization sessions in DNCC, offering caregivers more flexible vaccination hours. Community engagement activities complemented these interventions, including advocacy meetings, courtyard sessions, and interpersonal communication strategies aimed at reducing caregiver hesitancy and increasing vaccination uptake.



### Impact: Strengthening Immunization Services

Evidence of the impact of the Learning Hub's KT efforts includes the expansion of evening immunization sessions to additional urban wards within DNCC, increasing clinic accessibility for working caregivers. Additionally, ZD and UI tracking was institutionalized as a standing agenda item in monthly routine immunization meetings at district and upazila levels, ensuring sustained prioritization of immunization. Successful piloting of the e-screening checklist prompted stakeholder recommendations for its broader adoption in additional upazilas, reflecting a commitment to scaling evidence-based interventions. Additionally, the Learning Hub provided data and facilitated discussions to help stakeholders decide how to best implement these interventions, further ensuring that the evidence guided program decisions. Furthermore, structured advocacy efforts involving local leaders, union parishad members, religious leaders, teachers, and non-governmental organization community workers helped reinforce community-level mobilization and vaccine uptake.

