

## Mobile app to help adolescents access public health services in Bangladesh

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### For strengthening adolescent-friendly health services in Bangladesh



Millions of adolescents and youth in Bangladesh will be able to access health information and services through two online portals launched recently at The National Adolescent Health Conference held in Dhaka.

The Adolescent Health website and mobile application, launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with support from UNICEF and the Embassy of Sweden, aims to increase awareness and ensure easy access to physical and mental health information and services for adolescents.

Adolescents in Bangladesh, accounting for over 36 million of the country's population, face multiple social barriers to accessing information and health services that are essential for them to grow and thrive. Low awareness and social stigma about mental health and mental illness, for example, are widespread among communities. And when it comes to sexual and reproductive health, it is challenging for both girls and boys to seek and find trusted information and vital services.

The Adolescent Health platforms include educational and gender-adapted guides and courses on sexual and reproductive health and rights, nutrition, violence, and physical and mental health as well as information on how and where to access adolescent-friendly health services.

To promote widespread use of the platform, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and Ministry of Education will engage with adolescent clubs, youth peer groups and teachers in all secondary schools in the country.