Considerable progress was made in Bangladesh during 2021. Key achievements included:

- Creation of a Technical Committee under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to oversee the WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health;
- Designation of a Working Group under the Technical Committee, tasked to finalise country priorities and implementation plan for the WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health and to ensure alignment with Bangladesh’s National Mental Health Strategic Action Plan (2020-2030);
- Completion of an Economic Investment Case Study for Mental Health in Bangladesh, in collaboration with UNIATF, WHO and ARK Foundation;
- Continuation of mental health advocacy, particularly within the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and
- Launch of the WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health in Bangladesh at a high-level event.

In the year 2022 and beyond, Bangladesh will strengthen implementation of the WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health. Activities will include:

- Official launch of the Economic Investment Case Study for Mental Health in Bangladesh followed by strategic advocacy to enhance financing for mental health in the country;
- Supporting access to mental health services within primary care facilities by facilitating mhGAP trainings for non-specialist health care workers and continuing supervision arrangements for quality care;
- Strengthening integration of secondary care services through stakeholder discussions to develop a consensus action plan;
- Systematically developing and supporting the implementation of integrated, community-based services for people with priority mental health conditions in three selected demonstration districts;
- Developing information management systems in the demonstration districts for collection of key mental health indicators, as part of the routine Health Management Information System;
- Strengthening the supply chain management for psychotropic medications;
- Finalising country specific monitoring and evaluation plans; and
- Translating and adapting the Quality Rights e-Learning for training staff working in one tertiary care health facility.