



# FOOD CITIES 2022

# PROFILE NOWAPARA



Jinia Nowrin

**NOWAPARA POPULATION  
0.1 MILLION**



Nowapara is one of the major economic cities in the southern part of Bangladesh. This city is situated in the Jashore District. Nowapara has extra attention for business as it is connected with rail, road and water paths with different parts of the country as well as with India. Chemical fertilizers, coal, processed crops and stones are imported to and distributed from Nowapara, mainly through water ways. The amount of business in Nowapara covers approximately 200 billion Taka per year. And around 300,000 people depend on this city's economic activities directly. These economic activities attract more people to come for their livelihood in Nowapara.

result the food cost is no less than a bigger city in Bangladesh. Also, the land prices are increasing due to industrial developments and as a result the farming land is decreasing day by day. This increases the dependency of Nowapara on imported food, especially for the fresh food items for citizens. The lower and lower-middle income people are not always aware of food and nutrition issues. There is lack of awareness in knowledge related to food. During the Covid-19 outbreak, the municipality received some funding help from Municipal Section 2. Nowapara Municipality are working to secure proper management of food distribution, which they receive from the central government. The municipal committee also work to ensure the quality of food in the local bazaar on regular basis

### Food System Challenges

According to the country administration, there are very few opportunities to directly take any measures in the food system or food market by the municipality. Rather, the sub district level administration and the municipality manage the issues together. As a business city, Nowapara has and still is experiencing an influx of humans and as a

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## City Food Vision

According to the Bangladesh administrative system, all of the policies are governed and directed centrally. The local government, Sub-district administration and municipality work together in this. The municipality wants to establish an inclusive platform for addressing food system issues. The residents of Nowapara want to be inclusive in public – administrative decision-making process (e.g., dialogue/ knowledge sharing workshop/meetings) where they can raise their issues related to food system. They are willing to even work for a public committee for such activities. The inhabitants of the city are eager to start urban agriculture for daily needs of their food items. The city (municipality and the sub district) has started to work on the latest National Plan. The vision is to be sufficient in food supply to feed the inhabitants. As land quality is good here, more crops can be grown. Regular monitoring of the bazaar on price and quality will reassure buyers about produce. This is already being practiced by the municipality.



Hanna Ruszczyk

## Food Strategy

In Bangladesh, the central government is the main distributor of all of the funds and leads on any decision. There is less involvement of the municipality, specifically on food. Each city follows primarily the national plan for five years and other policies relevant to that.

- Following the 8th five-year Plan and Prospective Plan: 2021-2041
- National Food Policy
- Collaboration with Sub-district level administration relevant to food issues
- National Agriculture Policy

## Expertise

Nowapara municipality and sub district has different types of expertise on food related issues including agriculture, fisheries and water. As the working opportunities aren't directed by the Municipality, they face challenges in solving any such issues. They try to enhance the capabilities of the city on the vital issue of becoming self-sufficient and ensuring food production and supply to provide adequate nutritious food for the inhabitants of the city. They have shown their commitment during Covid-19 lockdown in distributing food help to the inhabitants. They hope to get more responsibilities like this for betterment of the city dwellers.

## Learning Needs

Nowapara is not much threatened by climatic impacts, but the threat to food production is driven by industrialization. Proper implementation of management and rules related to agricultural land protection and business land usability can enhance food production. Enhanced food production would secure the population's right to nutritious food in a balanced budget. Food business and product distribution need to be monitored for transparency.



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