**Formula and Green House Gases (GHG) - Information 2018**

Use of Breastmilk Substitutes (BMS) has a negative impact on the environment due to release of Green House Gases (GHG) during manufacturing of ingredients like powdered milk, vegetable oils, sugars and additives; during the industrial processing to manufacture the formula and during the transportation at every stage of manufacturing and distribution. Formula feeding requires associated products such as tin for cans needed for packing the formula, plastic for bottles and teats, labels and printing for marketing and distribution, and sterilizers for sterilizing the bottles, manufacturing of each one of these products further produce GHG. This puts a burden on the planet additional to that of formula production and sale. (See details at <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/FormulaForDisaster.pdf> )

To quantify the contribution of BMS in generating GHGs, BPNI/IBFAN Asia, in collaboration with global experts developed an innovative method to estimate GHG emissions due to these products in the year 2015 (See: <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Carbon-Footprints-Due-to-Milk-Formula.pdf> ).

Using this method, we have estimated the GHG emissions in 10 Asian countries and developed country report cards titled **“GreenFeeding to achieve Global Nutrition Targets 2025: Report Card on Carbon Footprints due to Breastmilk Substitutes (BMS)”**. You can explore these report cards at:

1.     China: <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-China.pdf>

2.     India: <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-India.pdf>

3.     Indonesia: <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-Indonesia.pdf>

4.     Malaysia: <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-Malaysia.pdf>

5.     Philippines:

<http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-Philippines.pdf>

6.     Republic of Korea:

<http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-Rep-of-Korea.pdf>

7.     Singapore: <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-Singapore.pdf>

8.     Taiwan ROC: <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-Taiwan.pdf>

9.     Thailand: <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-Thailand.pdf>

10.  Vietnam: <http://ibfanasia.org/docs/Green-Feeding-RC-Carbon-Footprint-Vietnam.pdf>

Negative impact of the BMS is one more reason to  curb inappropriate use of these products and enhance the breastfeeding rates. It is important to note that the BMS market is rapidly increasing and estimated to reach to US$ 70.6 billion by 2019, due to aggressive promotional activities of the manufacturers, . On the other hand, status of breastfeeding practices globally, an environment friendly way of nourishing infants and young children, remains dismal with  only 43% infants are exclusively breastfed and continued breastfeeding rates at 2 years being 46%. Global nutrition targets 2025 envisage increasing the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first 6 months up to at least 50 % which can be achieved by implementation of the policies and programmes on breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding as recommended in the global strategy for IYCF and regulating marketing of the BMS.

The present work on GHG emissions due to BMS is part of an ongoing work on this subject by IBFAN. We, at BPNI/IBFAN Asia hope that you will find these documents useful.

Thanks and Regards,

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