National Partnership

In partnership with FAO Country Office and with the support of EU Delegation





National Resources Institute

National Innovation Facilitators from the following organisations: Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute, Department of Livestock Services, Horticultural Export Development Foundation, Department of Agricultural Marketing, Department of Agricultural Extension, Bangladesh Academy of Rural Development, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, Aid Comilla, Bangabhandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University (BSMRAU), Ascend International CDAIS project taskforce member organisations: Krishi Gobeshona Foundation, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh Agro-Processors Association, Swiss Contact/ Gupta Bahadur Banjara, Katalyst project, A2I Programme, Prime Minister's Office, iDE, Horticultural Export Development Foundation, Department of Agricultural Marketing

"Many topics in the participatory training were eye openers. I have learned a good number of techniques that will help me not only in project activities but also in my personal life. And I believe that the acquired skills and knowledge will help me support effective collaboration and dynamic stakeholder networks and local agribusiness partnerships and will help to generate new knowledge by fostering collective learning and joint experimentation."

Country Project Manager, Bangladesh (CDAIS country report, 2016)

"Innovation is the transformation of knowledge into value, and an innovation process that is not business-oriented will not sustain itself in the marketplace"

(CDAIS country report, 2016)

Global partnership

Photo front page: @FAO/Giulio Napolitano



Agrinatura is a grouping of European universities and research organizations supporting agricultural development.



The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations leads international efforts to defeat hunger.

PILOT COUNTRIES

Central America: Guatemala, Honduras **Africa**: Angola, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Rwanda

Asia: Bangladesh, Laos

This flyer is intended as one of a series that will report the many and varied activities of CDAIS in each country, including, for example, policy dialogues, 'marketplaces', and specific outcomes.



STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION IN BANGLADESH



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Poultry

Sustainable marketing of safe poultry products

Poultry is a major income source in Kapasia, Gazipur district. The FAO Food Safety Project started working with small-scale poultry farmers and input suppliers in 2014, to upgrade production practices. These producers want to form a cooperative to strengthen market linkages. To supply markets with safe poultry meat, farmers working together can cut input costs and sell in bulk, using new functional capacities.



Mango is an important cash crop in Chapainawabganj district. Shibganj Upazila contributes more than half, but producers are frustrated by limited market opportunities and want to establish a group to increase revenues. Efforts will focus on improving links to traders, input suppliers and service providers through a stakeholder platform, and upgrading of functional capacities including skills in leadership, negotiation, analysing market information, and developing strategies to innovate.

In Bangladesh, capacity is being developed through the following CDAIS innovation niche partnerships



Pineapple

Demand for pineapple is increasing but marketing constraints persist. Prices for producers in Bandarban Sadar, Bandarban district remain low due to limited market access, gluts, the bargaining strength of traders, high transport costs, and spoilage. The Krishi Gobeshona Foundation project 'Entrepreneurship and value chain development for linking farmers with markets' provides technical and entrepreneurship training, but farmers now want to upgrade their functional capacities to improve market linkages through processing and branding.









omato

Adding value to surpluses through 'common interest groups'

Summer tomato production is a recent innovation thanks to new heat-tolerant varieties, and which has significantly improved farmer incomes as prices rise considerably in summer.

These varieties also continue to fruit through the winter, but the price is much lower due to competition from the main winter crop. In response, growers in Bagherpara, Jessore district want to find ways to get better prices through improved cold storage, processing and links with processors.



Farmed fish

Sustainable marketing and exporting

Mymensingh district produces 40% of all farmed fish nationally, with most activity

centred on Trishal Upazila. Commercial fish culture started in the 1990s and initially it was highly profitable, with quality fry and feed, a favorable enabling environment, and market linkages. Stakeholders have highlighted production and marketing challenges. Technical training has been offered, but more skills to support producer groups are needed to help them develop and improve linkages with buyers and processors.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION SYSTEMS

CDAIS is a global partnership that aims to strengthen the capacity of countries and key stakeholders to innovate in the context of complex agricultural systems to improve rural livelihoods. Its goal is to promote innovation that meets the needs of small farmers, agribusiness and consumers. To do so, it brings together key stakeholders in agricultural innovation systems and selected innovation niche partnerships to assess their needs and elaborate and implement capacity development plans. The CDAIS project enhances innovation in agriculture by improving the functional capacities of individuals, organizations and systems. It brings partners together and uses continuous learning cycles to address the challenges and opportunities in and around selected 'innovation niche partnerships' in eight pilot countries in Central America. Africa and Asia.

The project will focus its activities on those 'functional capacities' – soft skills such as more effective partnering, coordination and collaboration among actors within the innovation niche partnership and in supporting organisations rather than technical capacities such as farming skills, or on infrastructure and finance. Policy dialogue will also be facilitated to foster improved policies to enable agricultural innovation that help farmers to overcome their key challenges. Agricultural innovation systems have been repeatedly shown to have great potential for driving sustainable growth, poverty reduction and in helping to meet the Sustainable Development Goals