Proceedings of the SRI Experience Sharing National Workshop 200

Held at

DAE Conference Room
Khamarbari, Dhaka
11 October 2006

Organised by

SRI National Network Bangladesh and Oxfam GB Bangladesh

SRI
National Network Bangladesh

Sponsored by

Oxfam GB Bangladesh

Oxfam

Introduction and Objectives

An experience-sharing workshop on the system of rice intensification (SRI) was held on 11 October 2006 in the DAE Conference Room, Khamarbari, Dhaka. It was organised jointly by the SRI National Network and Oxfam GB Bangladesh. The Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) also provided its logistic and other support for holding the workshop. Policy makers, scientists, professionals, elites and SRI farmers attended the workshop. Among participants were high officials of research and extension organisations and practitioners of national and international NGOs. A list of participants is provided in *Annex B*.

The broad objectives of the workshop was to disseminate the concept and principles of SRI method, to share experiences on SRI trials in Bangladesh and abroad, with special reference to SRI trials conducted in programme areas of Oxfam GB and other organisations during the *Boro* 2005-06 season, and to motivate DAE and research organisations to provide necessary support and undertake promotional activities on SRI.

Welcome address:

After recitation from the Holy Quran and self-introduction by the participants, the workshop started with an address of welcome by Mr. Anil P. Tambay, Country Representative of Oxfam GB Bangladesh. He expressed hearty welcome to all the participants, spoke on the purpose behind organising this workshop, narrated his own experience on SRI in India, and on the initiative taken by Oxfam in the River Basin Project areas of Oxfam.

Mr. Tambay regretted that both the Chief Guest of the workshop, Dr. Syed Naquib Muslim, Additional Secretary of Agriculture, and the Special Guest, Mr. Ibrahim Khalil, Director General of Agricultural Extension, had to be away form Dhaka and could not be present due unavoidable and urgent State business. Mr. Khalil has provided his message on the workshop, which is place in the *annex-A* of this report. He, however, was happy that three distinguished persons were present as Special Guests. They are Dr. Q.K. Ahmed, President of Bangladesh Economics Association, Dr. M.A. Baqui, Director (Research), BRRI and Mr. M.N.A. Dewan, Director (Training), DAE. He welcomed them all.

He mentioned that being convinced by the potentials of SRI in improving the livelihoods of the poor farmers, and in enhancing their food security in several countries, the pilot project on SRI was initiated in the remote char areas of northern districts of Bangladesh. He found the results quite encouraging, and therefore, the trials would be continued during the ensuing Boro season on a larger scale. The new area included would be the Haor area of Kishoregonj. He expressed his thanks and appreciation to the DAE for providing technical assistance and support to the farmers and hoped that this would be continued in the future. He mentioned that unlike in other rice producing countries like India, there is some scepticism in Bangladesh, especially by researchers, about conducting systematic trials on SRI to test its suitability. He made a plea that all concerned should conduct adequate trials on a new production method like SRI to test out its efficacy in increasing yield and profitability. It is not enough to conduct trials in the research station under controlled conditions, scientists should find out what works for the farmers in their field. He hoped that the SRI National Network Bangladesh would be able to bring together the BRRI scientists, DAE extension personnel, NGO practitioners and others concerned in a collaborative programme to conduct systematic trials on SRI and determine its suitability for increasing rice yield and improve food security in Bangladesh.

Presentation on the Current Status of SRI in Bangladesh and abroad:

Prof. Muazzam Husain, Coordinator, SRI National Network, presented a paper on the status of SRI in Bangladesh and abroad. Introducing the concept and principles of SRI, its benefits and the need for SRI in Bangladesh, he briefly narrated the progress of SRI around the world and the history of development of SRI initiatives in Bangladesh bringing out the potentials of SRI in the country.

Looking at the global scenario, he mentioned that currently 24 countries have been trying SRI practices, in most of which the results have been very much positive. In countries like Indonesia, Cambodia and India, their governments have become involved in promoting SRI.

About the justification for adopting SRI in Bangladesh, he mentioned that it ensures substantive increase in rice yield, can reduce cost of production and raise profitability; it diminishes the need for high cost modern inputs, promotes environment friendly sustainable agriculture and can contribute to enhanced food security. He briefly presented the findings of the PETRRA sub-projects carried out for two *Boro* seasons, the overall results of which were positive. One sub-project led by a BRRI scientist found SRI results not only better than the farmers' method, but also better than the BRRI method. Without any exception, everywhere, the participating farmers expressed positive views on the SRI method. We are happy that the DAE has shown favourable attitude towards SRI, but unfortunately many BRRI scientists have so far been sceptical about SRI. He, however, mentioned the recommendations of the two national workshops held on SRI and the field visit report on SRI by a team of representatives from DAE, BRRI, related NGOs and SRI National Committee representatives, which found SRI to be a potential method and was favoured by practicing farmers. The recommendations mentioned, among other things, the need to verify SRI by systematic trials by researchers, extension personnel and NGO practitioners.

On the latest SRI developments in Bangladesh, he briefly narrated the findings of trial reports of two international development organisations, Oxfam GB and ActionAid. Oxfam GB Bangladesh sponsored SRI trials in its River Basin Project (RBP) area on a small scale during 2005-06 Boro season in the char areas of three northern districts. The main purpose of the trials was to test the feasibility of SRI in improving the food security in the remote char areas. Results showed that even under adverse agro-ecological conditions, farmers received 25% higher yields under SRI method. Profitability was also 78% higher than that under farmers' method. Significantly less seed was required under SRI, but effective tillers were 38% higher and average grains per panicle were 168 in SRI plots against 125 in farmers' method plots. However, farmers faced various problems including cold injury of seedlings, difficulty in irrigation management, and inadequate training and experience. The farmers expressed the view that they would go for the SRI method on a larger scale during the next *Boro* season.

ActionAid conducted SRI trials in five districts under its FoSHoL project to improve food security of the poor farmers. Three hundred poor farmers participated of which 85 were monitored for reporting. Average yield in SRI plots were 36% higher. Average gross margin and benefit cost ratio of SRI were also higher. SRI plots had more effective tillers per hill, higher length of panicle and relatively less pest infestations. Encouraged by the success of SRI, ActionAid also plans to undertake SRI trials during the next *Boro* season on a much larger scale.

Prof. Husain mentioned some practical problems faced by farmers in Bangladesh in practicing SRI method, which mainly include shortage of organic manure and problems of irrigation management in scattered small plots. He asserted that in spite of the potentials of SRI and favourable perception of farmers, large-scale extension of SRI could not so far be achieved due to absence of Government policy decisions given to DAE to go ahead with

promoting SRI and the lack of support of the BRRI. He urged upon the participants including policy makers, scientists, extension personnel and NGO practitioners to undertake joint efforts in realising the best potentials of SRI in Bangladesh, which could go a long way to increase rice yield, profitability and food security in the country.

Open discussion:

The open discussion was moderated by Professor S. M. Altaf Hossain, Professor, Department of Agronomy, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh.

In the introduction of the open discussion Professor Altaf said that SRI is both a principle and a method of rice cultivation. It complements organic farming that ensures better environment. It is a sustainable farming method. It can promote such a cropping system that can assure us of reaching the moving target of production. Population is increasing by 1.5% while agriculture production has been increasing by only 1.0%. Increased population changes the agriculture production target. What ever the scientists, and the extension and NGO workers are doing should be viable and economic to farmers. In promoting IPM we have had extended good training but failed to provide appropriate technology to sustain what has been taught. We must remember that farmers are the dynamic scientists and superb economists. They finally decide which is good for them. No regulation or training sustain unless farmers validate that by their practicing the technology or services. He wondered why some BRRI scientists were sceptical about SRI. He strongly felt that the scientists must find out why farmers were doing better than researchers in SRI practices. He then invited participants to join the open discussion and the following took part.

1. Mr. Md. Abdur Rahim Mondol, SRI farmer

The open discussion session was started with Md. Abdur Rahim Mondol, one of the SRI experimenting farmers from Village Panchanan, Gaibandha. He shared his experience of following SRI principles of rice cultivation in Boro 2005-06. Describing some of the principles he had applied, he said that from 10 decimals of SRI plot he got 280 kilograms of paddy while from a 10 decimal of control plot he got 200 kilograms of paddy.

2, Mr. Golam Kibria, Additional Director (Training), DAE

Large number of the population is unemployed. We may not go for full mechanization of agriculture. However, partial mechanization is necessary for agriculture to sustain in this open market economy. While we have employment opportunities in agriculture we must use them efficiently. We need appropriate technology for agriculture. SRI, as I find it, is a labour-intensive rice cultivation method. However, simple technology like drum-seeder and weeders may be promoted in SRI method too.

3, Dr. Shahidul Islam, Director, Agriculture Information Service, DAE

As of today, we did not know SRI completely. We could not consider all the factors related to SRI. We have a partial knowledge of SRI. This workshop has opened up our eyes and helped us understand SRI in a better way. In 1982 rice cultivation in Japan was quite fully mechanized. During that period they started transplanting young seedlings as SRI suggested recently. SRI has shown good results in many countries and that was corroborated by trials of our farmers. We need to organize training. People must be exposed to a comprehensive set of principles. Some large-scale demonstration trials need to be carried with joint effort of relevant departments of GoB, NGO and research institutes so that a concrete result can be at hand to have further decisions on SRI. SRI has shown potential to contribute to the increasing demand for food in our country. Therefore, we must act upon the promotion of SRI from our position and with our capacity to contribute to it.

4. Mr. Tarique Hassan, Ex-DG, DAE

He expressed the view that no single technology can exclusively meet the demands of Bangladesh agriculture characterized by diverse agro-ecological conditions. Difference in topography, soil condition, and water availability requires different approaches and technology. SRI may not respond to all the requirements of rice cultivation. However, wherever applicable, it would give better result than any other technology in practice. He wanted to know the status on the decision that was taken in the last SRI workshop (2005) on developing a project proposal on SRI. The project proposal should be expedited to prepare a coordinated and integrated programme on SRI. He suggested that GoB and NGO should go for joint planning and coordinated development activities on SRI. He also felt that the drum seeder method may be integrated with SRI, to see whether it can help attain better results.

5. Dr. Humayun Kabir, Metta Foundation, Myanmar

SRI in simple words is a combination of some improved practices. A synergetic impact of using these different practices showed to have better result in different countries that includes Cambodia, India, Myanmar and Philippines. It may be necessary at this point of time to go for large-scale trials instead of carrying out trials on small plots of 5 to 10 decimals of land. Large-scale demonstration can have greater impact, visible to farmers and the policy makers, and potentially influence the farmers for informed decision making.

6. Mr. Osman Ghani, Additional Director (Administration), DAE

SRI can be referred as modern agronomy concerned particularly with rice cultivation at the moment. SRI has shown to have better yield potential. We need better dissemination of the method. A good communication support is essential to deliver the benefit of SRI to the farmers. In order to do so we need to enhance the knowledge and capacity of the man behind the plough. Training should be particularly focused to farm workers, the people who practically work in the field.

7. Mr. Masud Omar, Promoter vermi compost

He emphasized the importance of high quality seed and improvement of soil quality in raising yield. He thought BRRI could contribute in these areas. SRI also insists on the use of quality seed and soil improvement through use of organic manure and addition of biomass to the soil.

8. Fuljan, Leader of a women group of ZIBIKA

According to the trial in Boro 2006, yield has been increased almost two folds. SRI plot had 30 to 40 effective tillers per hill but other existing plot had 15 to 20 effective tillers per hill.

9. Mr. Salauddin, ZIBIKA

SRI has comparative yield advantage compared to other method of rice cultivation. In the trial area water management was difficult. However, farmers indicated that community approach of SRI will solve the problem. SRI promoters may like to take initiative to have community approach in organizing demonstration trials.

10. Dr. Akter Hossain Khan, PSO, BRRI

SRI promotion and demonstration can be accelerated with the support from BRRI. The important thing is what the farmers find economically beneficial. It is immaterial to debate on

which organization recommends what. We should have an open mind to trials and promotion of different technology, variety and technique tried in the field so that farmers can choose the best for them. It is not of any concern of any organization to judge other's technology. Farmers are the decision makers.

What BRRI pointed out in different occasions are some of the limitations that SRI has: (1) water management and (2) weeding. More of joint effort of BRRI, NGO and SRI National Network, Bangladesh is necessary in the refinement and dissemination of SRI in the field.

It would have been more meaningful to have farmers who had participated in SRI in the year 1999 and onwards. Continuity of SRI farmers who have practiced it earlier should have substantial weightage in the experience sharing workshops. We have heard that among the 77 farmers who tried SRI in 1999 only two were found to have practiced in 2006 Boro season.

11. Mr. Jabed Ali, Farmer, Kurigram

SRI cultivation has comparative yield gain. There were 175 grains of rice per panicle, which is 30% more than the number of grains grown in other plots.

12. Mr. Mazharul Huq, E.D. BRF

It is unfortunate that while other major rice producing countries are making progress on adoption of SRI, we in Bangladesh are still debating on its acceptability. Let there be more research and trials on SRI, please do not terminate such efforts. To facilitate adoption of SRI practices, small-scale mechanisation may be promoted. Simple low cost mechanical line markers and rotary weeders may be promoted for use, which would also help attain economy in production cost. SRI method is congenial to partial mechanization of rice cultivation, which would help improve returns to labour.

13. Mr. Mofizur Rahman, ActionAid

We need to consider all factors that influence production decisions and profitability of a farmer. SRI is such a method of rice cultivation that considers all such factors of a rice farmer. We should accept SRI if it is acceptable by the farmers.

ActionAid has a plan to have 1,000 (one thousand) small farmers in the ensuing *Boro* season in their SRI group. ActionAid SRI area covers land of different topography and soil.

14. Dr. Tarafdar Rabiul Islam, Former United Nations Adviser

BRRI develops basic technology on rice cultivation. Its major focus is on the hi-tech related to rice cultivation. SRI at the same time deals with rice cultivation technology but at the field level. Thus, SRI is a complementary initiative in rice cultivation. It is not a threat to BRRI. The scientists should not suffer from any dilemma on the issue of SRI, but should contribute its valuable efforts to find out scientifically the true potentials of SRI and its benefits and acceptability to the farmers.

15. Dr. Gazi Jashim Uddin, CSO and Head, Agronomy Division, BRRI

Bangladesh will need 27 million ton of rice per annum two years from now. Hybrid rice cultivation is the best technology to adopt to reach the goal of 27 million ton rice. SRI will not help meet the goal.

BRRI develops rice variety but not technology. It concentrates on developing cheap and easily adoptable variety of rice suitable to socio-cultural set up of rural Bangladesh.

However, we are not against SRI but would like to offer the SRI National Network a combined effort for trial and promotion of SRI in the field. We need to be very clear about the specific national target of producing 27 million tons per annum very soon.

Address by Special Guests:

Dr. Q.K. Ahmed, Special Guest and President of Bangladesh Economic Association (BEA) said that SRI is emerging as a solution to the ever-increasing food problem. Population is increasing by 1.5% while agriculture production has been increased by only 1.0%. He mentioned about different things that have been tried and many of them failed. This is because we make experiments but do not follow-up or evaluate. Some times experiments are suddenly dropped. He mentioned that RD 2 was implemented before the evaluation of RD1. What we should learn is that we should do things in close contact with farmers. SRI is working with farmers. The farmers who have experience with SRI approve it because it is beneficial for them. By increment in farm production it can definitely contribute to a sustainable development of our agricultural economy, for which the nation is putting forward a lot of efforts. The most pressing need for the nation is development of human beings, especially a sustainable development of the common people. We have around 80% of the population engaged in agriculture. Therefore, development activities should be targeted to these farmers, especially those who are poor. We should go for any method or technology that really works for the poor. We need also to increase employment outside agriculture. In order to do so we need coordination among different organizations and ministries of Bangladesh. Therefore, I would urge organizations and GoB Ministries that have relevance to SRI to provide needed coordinated support to the SRI promoters. Training is also needed. He also announced that considering the high potential of the SRI method, the BEA in its next bi-annual conference, would make provision for a special session on SRI under the broad theme on sustainable agriculture. He invited papers on the same.

Dr. M.A. Baqui, Director (Research), BRRI and Special Guest stated that SRI offers a challenge to the current rice technology in Bangladesh. Many of the factors or characteristics of SRI are explored by scientists. However, there are some factors and issues that remain to be recognized by scientists. So long the transplantation practice was 3 to 4 seedlings per hill while SRI asserts that 1 plant per hill is a much better practice. Instead of transplanting seedling densely wider spacing (plant to plant and row to row) is claimed to be more effective in having comparatively better plant health and yield. Plants thrive well with comparatively less water than that practiced by farmers earlier. However, SRI plots require more weeding than the plots submerged in water continuously. Will the farmers accept this? The question remains how long will the SRI group be just experimenting. Large-scale trials may be done and we should consolidate the issue of SRI versus BRRI and conclude the experimentation phase.

Mr. M.N.A. Dewan, Director (Training), DAE and Special Guest, in his address mentioned that the SRI Experience Sharing Workshop has given us a good opportunity to discuss and have better knowledge on how the 24 countries around the world have benefited from SRI. It also fits well with the need of our national goal to reach a production of 27 million tons of rice per annum. Experience of different countries showed that it would not be difficult to reach a 25% increase in rice production just by practicing SRI in the field. SRI at the same time is environment friendly. Thus it offers us two fold benefits to rice cultivation. We have results of 8 districts. All the districts have positive results. However, there is some work to do to reap full benefits from SRI. According to the experience shared by different farmers and NGO we need to undertake adequate training programmes. If the farmers are able to practice SRI in a comprehensive manner then we can avail full potentials of SRI. Partial

practice of SRI by farmers cannot show the full potentials of SRI method, and we are not also able to get the full benefits from SRI. We must go for SRI if it is acceptable to our farmers. I do not understand why BRRI is somewhat allergic to SRI. BRRI, DAE and other organisations involved in SRI should work together for the interest of the farmers. The drum seeder method may also be integrated with SRI if found feasible and useful.

For meeting proper training needs on SRI for practising SRI in an appropriate way, it is very urgent for us to focus on two stakeholder groups with regard to training. On the one hand, the DAE staffs, NGO and BRRI need training on SRI. On the other hand, we need to train a large number of farmers and farm labourers in the field. Of course, we need strong trainers. The SRI National Network Bangladesh may take the initiative in this respect. Both the organizational staff and the farm workers also need cross visits across the country and overseas, if possible. We need to promote SRI through block demonstration, which will help us overcome some of the limitations talked about in different presentations and discussions. It must also be remembered that SRI should be practiced only wherever appropriate. However, in this respect we need appropriate policy directives especially from Ministry of Agriculture of Bangladesh Government.

Closing remarks of the moderator

Prof. Altaf Hossain closed the open discussion with the following remarks. He thanked all the participants for their active participation in the lively discussion on SRI. He added that SRI promotes use of organic matter in rice field. The approach is very essential for agriculture at the moment and is a necessary precondition for attaining a sustainable method of agriculture. SRI method of rice cultivation can ensure increased amount of organic matter in the field 2 to 2.5 tons per hectare. Once upon a time, jute used to add more organic matter but decline in jute cultivation deprived rice fields from its contribution of organic matter. SRI needs concerted action to enhance its research, practice and extension activities.

A joint effort of DAE, BRRI, different NGO and SRI National Network Bangladesh can help reach the goal of 27 million tons per annum in a better way. He hoped that adoption of the SRI method would significantly contribute to an environment friendly sustainable agriculture in Bangladesh.

Concluding remarks by the Workshop facilitator

Prof. Muazzam Husain, who facilitated the workshop, in his concluding remarks briefly summarised the presentation and discussions in the workshop. He mentioned that it was in general agreed by the participants that SRI has potentials in improving the yield and profitability of rice production by farmers in Bangladesh, as demonstrated in many other countries. However, the potentials of SRI have not yet been fully explored in Bangladesh. The few and scattered trials in the farmers' field have shown better performance than the farmers' existing method. This promises to be especially acceptable by resource poor farmers. However, there are problems faced by SRI farmers in implementing this method properly. To solve these problems, the researchers, extension personnel, and NGO practitioners need to undertake collaborative and systematic action to explore the best potentials of SRI in the country. Among other things are the provision of training for field staffs and farmers. It has been also proposed in the workshop that the project proposal on SRI as suggested by the team of experts who conducted field trips on SRI should be completed as soon as possible. This could provide broad guidelines for SRI promotion programme in Bangladesh, including the role of different GO/NGO in this respect, and also help seek necessary funds for the SRI programme. He assured the house that work is going on to finalise the proposal by the SRI National Network Bangladesh (NNB). Finally, he asserted that favourable policy directives from the Government Ministry of Agriculture would

pave the way for whole-hearted and collaborative action to be taken by DAE and BRRI on SRI. The SRI NNB would offer it full support to all the stakeholders involved in SRI promotion. Already a Video CD has been developed (dubbed in *Bangla*), training materials including monographs on SRI have been prepared. We (SRI Network) shall provide all possible support to promote SRI in the country. He thanked all the participants for showing interest in SRI and for their active participation in the valuable discussions held.

Vote of thanks

Mr. Farid Hasan Ahmed, Programme Coordinator, RBP, Oxfam GB delivered the vote of thanks to all who had kindly attended the workshop. He thanked the Special Guests, the discussion moderator, the facilitator, scientists from BRRI, the senior officers and field level staffs of DAE, the representatives of different NGOs, professional experts, members of the elite, the representatives of the media, and the farmers for their valuable participation in the workshop. He specially thanked the DAE for offering their Conference room for the workshop, and the logistic support given, which contributed greatly to its success. He also thanked the SRI National Network for their contribution in organising the workshop.

Message from Md. Ibrahim Khalil, Director General, Department of Agricultural Extension, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

I sincerely express my regret for not being able to attend the SRI Experience Sharing Workshop due to my emergency involvement with the Honorable Prime Minister's program. On behalf of DAE, I would like convey my cordial thanks to all of you present here for participating in the workshop.

SRI was introduced for the first time in Bangladesh in 1999 and the DAE was one of the two pioneers in trying this new method of rice production management evolved in Madagascar in the early 80's. The other organization was CARE Bangladesh. Some other organizations including BRRI, BRAC, SAFE, POSD, Syngenta, AAS, etc. then came forward in trying the potentials of SRI in the country. The results of these trials in general were found favorable.

DAE also took up a program in a number of extension areas to promote SRI among farmers. This partial SRI was termed as *Ekchara* poddhoti by the local farmers and ToT was provided to some field level DAE staff. A field visit in April 2005 by a team with representatives from DAE, BRRI, NGOs and SRI Steering Committee revealed a favorable opinion of the farmers on the SRI method. However, they have mentioned about problems such as inadequate training, difficulty in irrigation management, inadequate demonstration plots and follow up action.

I understand recently, Oxfam GB Bangladesh and ActionAid have conducted trials on SRI especially in their project areas to improve the food security of their poor farmer members. Some of these trials are being conducted in the remote char areas of the country to determine the feasibility of SRI under adverse ecological conditions. DAE field personnel have provided technical assistance and cooperation in the trials conducted by these organizations.

The main function of DAE is usually to disseminate the technology that is evolved by BARI, BRRI and other NARS institutions. But often, other technologies are also tried such the drum seeder method for rice cultivation. SRI is a method of rice production management to improve the rice production and profitability of the farmers. It is now being tried in 24 countries of the world. In some of these countries, the Governments are directly supporting SRI. I believe, to raise productivity and enhance food security in the country, we should try all potential methods. Organized trials may therefore, be undertaken by all concerned to find out the suitability of SRI in Bangladesh. If necessary, we may even try to modify the method for increasing its adaptability in our country. I hope and assure you that DAE will provide necessary cooperation and assistance to such programs.

I wish the workshop all success.

Allah Hafez,
Md. Ibrahim Khalil.
(Md. Ibrahim Khalil)
Date : 09-10-06

Annex-B

SRI EXPERIENCE SHARING WORKSHOP
Venue: DAE Conference Room, Khamarbari, Dhaka
Date: October 11, 2006

Sl #	Name	Designation	Organisation and contact address
1.	Md. Abdul Bari	Crop Production Specialist	DAE, Kurigram
2.	Md. Shafayet Hossain	Upazila Agricultural Officer	DAE Sundargonj Upazila, Gaibandha district
3.	Md. Yusuf Rana Mondal	Upazila Agricultural Officer	DAE Shaghata Upazila, Gaibandha district
4.	Tarafdar Rabiul Islam	Former Advisor, FAO	B-6, 8 UN Road, Baridhara, Dhaka
5.	Md. Abdul Matin	Deputy Director	DAE, Gaibandha district
6.	Dr. Shahidul Islam	Director	Agricultural Information Service, Khamarbari, Dhaka
7.	Fuljan Begum	Farmer Representative	Charkrishnapur, Kurigram
8.	K. A. J. Rume	Project Officer	Oxfam GB Dhaka, Bangladesh
9.	Didarul Hasam	Project Officer	Oxfam GB Dhaka, Bangladesh
10.	Md. Sirajul Islam	Agricultural Extension Officer	Sadar Upazila, Kurigram district
11.	Md. Lal Mahamud Miah	Addition Director (Monitoring)	DAE Khamarbari, Dhaka
12.	Md. Hagibur Rahman	DD (Training Wing)	DAE Khamarbari, Dhaka
13.	Dr. M. A. Baqui	Director (Research)	Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Gazipur
14.	Masud Omar	Promoter of Vermi Compost	Eskaton Plaza, 131,New Eskaton Road, Dhaka
15.	Md. Munir Hossain	Project Officer	Oxfam GB Dhaka, Bangladesh
16.	Abdur Rahim	Farmer Representative	JIBIKA, Kurigram
17.	Dr. AKM Shameem Alam	DAE Official	DAE, Khamarbari, Dhaka
18.	Md. Zabed Ali	Farmer Representative	JIBIKA, Kurigram
19.	Md. Mizanur Rahman	Project Officer	Padakkhep, Dhaka
20.	Md. Shahjahan Ali	Project Officer	Padakkhep, Dhaka
21.	Salauddin Ahmed	Project Officer	Padakkhep, Dhaka
22.	Md. Taslim Reza	Sector Specialist	BRAC, Dhaka
23.	Dr. BAA Mustafa	CASR	Bangladesh Rice Research Institute
24.	Razib Uddin	Director	POSD, Rajshahi

25.	Mahbub Rahman	Product Development Manager	Syngenta Bangladesh Ltd. Dhaka
26.	Anil P. Tambay	Country Representative	Oxfam GB Bangladesh, Dhaka
27.	Ayesha Dastgik	PCIO	Oxfam GB Bangladesh, Dhaka
28.	Prof. A. M. Muazzam Husain	Coordinator	SRI NNB, Dhaka
29.	Mazharul Huq	Executive Director	Bangladesh Rice Foundation, Dhaka
30.	AKM Anwarul Islam	Additional Director (Extn), FSW	DAE, Khamarbari, Dhaka
31.	Dr, Gazi Jashim Uddin	Chief Scientific Officer	Head, Agronomy, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute
32.	Md. Akter Hossin Khan	PSO	Bangladesh Rice Research Institute
33.	Mazharul Islam	Project Officer	Padakhep, Dhaka
34.	Abdul Hamid	Executive Director	Samakal Samaj Unnayan Sangstha
35.	M. A. Sabur Mia	Project Coordinator	Padakhep, Dhaka
36.	Tariq Hassan	Managing Director	NRCP/ ABC
37.	M. A. Baten	Deputy Director	DAE, Kishoreganj
38.	Murshed Alam Sarker	Executive Director	POPI
39.	Anwar Hossain	Deputy Director	POPI
40.	Dr. Qazi Khaiquzzaman	Chairman	Bangladesh Economic Association, Dhaka
41.	I. B. Roy	Coordinator, Farming System	ActionAid Bangladesh, Dhaka
42.	Dr. S. M. Altaf Hossain	Professor	Department of Agronomy, BAU, Mymensingh
43.	Syed Fazlul Karim Dewan	Director, FCW	DAE, Khamarbari, Dhaka
44.	Dr. Rahim Uddin Ahmed	Director, PPW	DAE, Khamarbari, Dhaka
45.	Rasel Ahmed Liton	Executive Director	Samaj Kallyan Shangstha (SKS), Gaibandha
46.	Md. Osman Ghani	Additional Director	DAE, Khamarbari, Dhaka
47.	M. N. A. Dewan	Director (Training Wing)	DAE, Khamarbari, Dhaka
48.	Suman Das	Project Officer	Oxfam GB Bangladesh, Dhaka
49.	Md. Mofizur Rahman	Associate Coordinator, Agriculture	ActionAid Bangladesh, Dhaka
50.	Ira Rahman	Executive Director	Gonochetona
51.	Iqbal Ahmed	Executive Director	Padakkhep, Dhaka
52.	Dr. Humayun Kabir	Consultant	Metta Foundation, Myanmar
53.	Luther Das	M&E Specialist	SRI NNB, Dhaka
54.	Gopal Chowhan	Consultant/ Executive Mamber	SRI NNB, Dhaka