



BARC

Newsletter

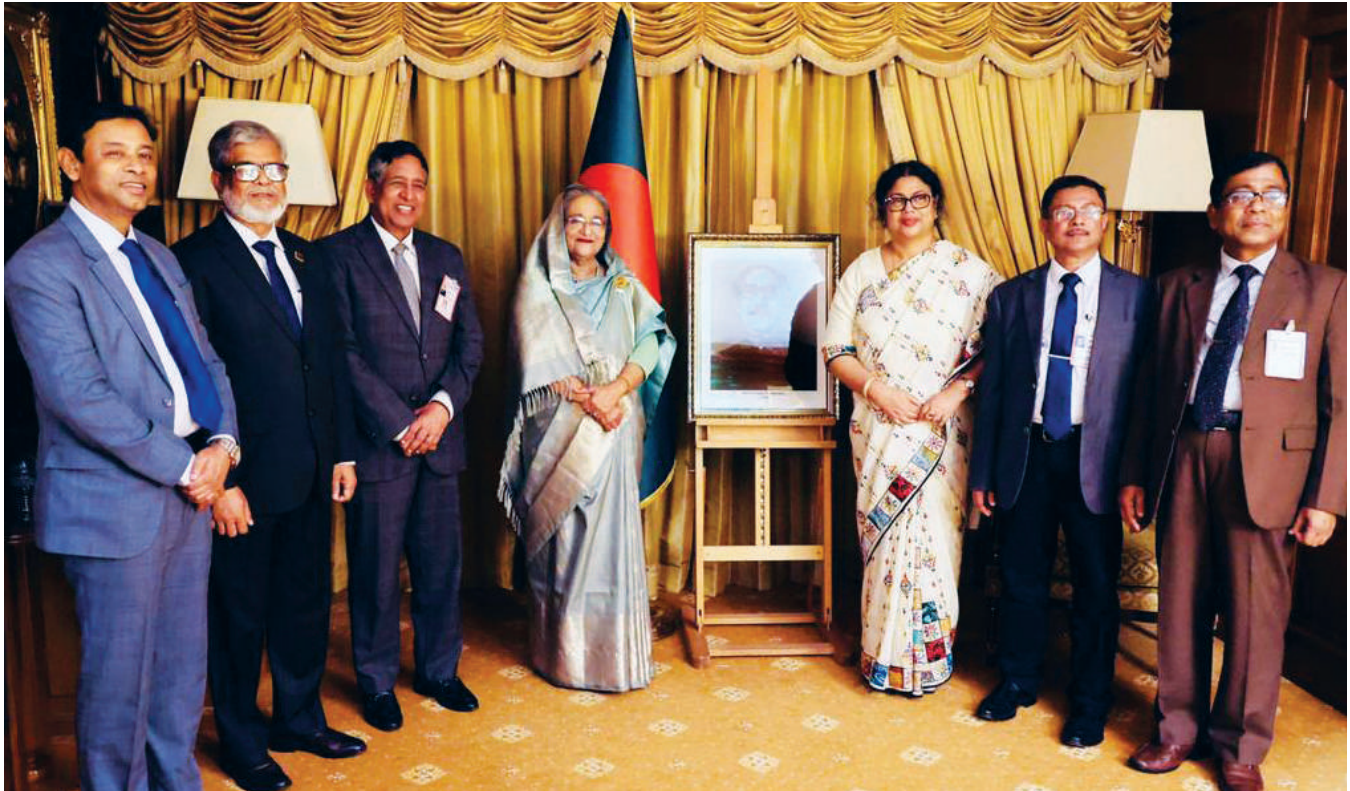
Towards Building Advance Intelligent System for Agriculture

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Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Officials Advocate Inclusive and Sustainable Food Systems at UN Summit



The 2023 UN Food System Summit+2 Stocktaking Moment

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, along with Bangladesh's Agriculture Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, Agriculture Secretary Wahida Akter, and the Executive Chairman of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), attended the UN Food Systems Summit+2 (UNFSS+2) in Rome. Alongside four agricultural scientists accompanying Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The summit, held at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) headquarters, convened discussions

on critical issues including the triple planetary crisis and food system impacts caused by conflicts. The event aimed to foster momentum for actionable steps to enhance global food systems. Numerous global leaders and delegates from over 160 countries attended the summit, advocating for sustainable solutions to food-related challenges.

At the opening ceremony, PM Hasina emphasized the pressing need for inclusive and sustainable food management globally, highlighting the challenges posed

by the Ukraine conflict-induced crises in food, fertilizer, energy, and finance.

Addressing the theme "*Sustainable Food Systems for People, Planet, and Prosperity: Diverse Pathways in a Shared Journey*," the PM stressed that about 690 million people suffer from malnutrition globally, with nearly two billion facing food insecurity and three billion lacking a balanced diet. She presented five proposals for a sustainable, safe, and nutritious global food system, urging multi

lateral development banks and private entrepreneurs to invest in modern agriculture and the removal of trade barriers. Hon'ble PM proposed establishing global and regional food banks, emphasized leveraging advanced agricultural technologies aligned with the 4th industrial revolution, and advocated for a global social movement to prevent food wastage, believing collective action could ensure sustainable global food security.

Highlighting Bangladesh's achievements, she outlined the country's transformation from a food-deficient nation to a food surplus country, citing increased food production across various sectors. Bangladesh now ranks prominently in rice, fish, jute, vegetables, and potato production globally, with significant contributions from agriculture and fisheries sectors to the GDP.

PM Hasina also mentioned the government's emphasis on agricultural research and innovation, showcasing the development of numerous high-yielding crop varieties, including salinity-tolerant rice, with ongoing research into drought and waterlogging-tolerant rice. She highlighted the enactment of the Food Safety Act and the formation of the Bangladesh Food Safety Authority to ensure food safety in the country.

Condolences on the Passing of National Emeritus Scientist Dr. Kazi M. Badruddoza

The Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC) expresses deep sorrow at the passing of Dr. Kazi M. Badruddoza, a revered National Emeritus Scientist. Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman of BARC, extends heartfelt condolences and profound sympathy to the family members on the demise of this esteemed figure. Dr. Badruddoza, who passed away on 30 August 2023 was a pioneer and an undisputed intellectual leader in the field of agricultural research in Bangladesh. His contributions revolutionized agricultural research, and he was renowned as the originator of groundbreaking work in the sector.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina conveyed her deep shock and prayers for the eternal peace of the departed soul. She also expressed profound sympathy to the bereaved family members, recognizing Dr. Kazi M. Badruddoza's significant contributions, including his invention of the well-known "Kazi Guava." His demise has been a tremendous loss for Bangladesh in



Dr. Badruddoza receiving the Independence Day Award from PM Sheikh Hasina (2012)

the agricultural sector, as highlighted in PM's condolence message, which honored Dr. Badruddoza's creative legacy.

Dr. Badruddoza born on 1 January 1927 in Gobindaganj, Gaibandha District, gained acclaim for discovering the 'Kazi Guava,' a high-yielding variety that proliferated across Bangladesh. His expertise in applied research was evident, having graduated in science from the University of Dhaka, pursued further studies in

agriculture, earning a PhD from Louisiana State University, and subsequently served in significant capacities, notably as the Director General of the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council.

Returning to Bangladesh, Dr. Badruddoza continued his influential role in agricultural research. His tenure as the chief research advisor for FAO/UNDP in Hanoi and presidency at the Bangladesh Academy of Agriculture showcased his

dedication. His 14-year association with the Bangladesh Agricultural University and role as the executive vice-president of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council demonstrated his commitment to the sector.

Recognizing his outstanding contributions, Dr. Kazi M. Badruddoza was honored with the

Independence Award in 2012 for his exceptional contributions to agricultural science.

His passing at the age of 96 due to age-related complications signifies the loss of a guiding force and an inspiration for agricultural scientists in the country. BARC pays tribute to his remarkable legacy, stating that his contributions will remain a

source of inspiration not only for agricultural scientists but for all patriotic Bangladeshis.

BARC extends heartfelt sympathies to Dr. Kazi M. Badruddoza's family and prays for the departed soul's eternal peace. The Council also wishes strength and courage to the family members to endure this profound loss with fortitude.

Training program on The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Potential Application in the Livestock Sector

Livestock Division, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) organized a training program on *The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Potential Applications in the Livestock Sector* from 25-27 September 2023 at BARC premises. In this training course, forty (40) scientists, teachers, and officers from NARS and other institutes i.e., BARC, BLRI, BAU, SAU, NIB BIRTAN, etc. were present as participants. The training program was inaugurated by the chief guest Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC. The inaugural session was presided over by Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, Member Director, Livestock Division, BARC. The welcome remark was delivered by Dr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Chief



Dr. S M Bokhtiar, EC, BARC Delivering Speech

Scientific Officer, Livestock Division, BARC. Resource persons conducted lectures and practical sessions on specific fields. After

successful completion of the training program, certificates were awarded to the participants.

Research Review and Planning Workshop on Soils Program of NARS Institutes

Soils Unit, Natural Resources Management Division, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) organized Research Review and Planning Workshop on *Soils Program of NARS Institutes: Research Progress 2022-2023 and Program Planning 2023-24* at BARC during 25-27 September 2023. The workshop aimed to

review for improvement of research programs conducted at the NARS institutes during 2022-23 and program planning for the year 2023-24 with the participation of the National Agricultural Research System institutes (BARI, BRRI, BINA, BSRI, BJRI, BTRI, SRDI, CDB, BSRTI and BWMRI), Department of Agricultural

Extension (DAE), Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC), Agricultural Universities, etc.

The workshop was divided into an inaugural session, six technical sessions, a recommendation session, and a concluding session. The chief guest of the inaugural session was Dr. S M Bokhtiar,

Executive Chairman, BARC. Mr. Badal Chandra Biswas, Director General, DAE, and Mr. Sabbir Hossen, Director General, SRDI were present as Guests of Honor.

Technical session-I and technical session-II (Soil Fertility and Fertilizer Management) held on 25 September 2023 were chaired by Dr. M. Jahiruddin, Former Prof. Dept. of Soil Science and Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, BAU, and Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, Former Prof. Dept. of Soil Science and Coordinator for Advance Studies and Research (CASR), BAU, respectively. Technical Session-III (Soil Fertility and Fertilizer Management) and Technical Session-IV (Soil Micronutrients, Heavy Metals, and Environmental Problems) held on 26 September 2023 were chaired by Dr. Md. Shahidul Islam, Former Director General, BARI, and Dr. Md. Sirajul Hoque, Former Professor, SWED, DU, respectively. Technical Session-V (Soil Microbiology) and Technical Session-VI (Physical Aspects of Soil Management including Land,



Pictorial View of the Inaugural Session

Soil and Water Characterization and Evaluation) held on 27 September 2023 were chaired by Dr. Md. Abul Hashem, Former Prof. Dept. of Soil Science and Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, BAU and A J M Sirajul Karim, Former Prof. Dept. of Soil Science, BSMRAU, respectively. Invited heads of Soil Science Divisions of BARI, BRRI, BINA, BSRI, BJRI, BTRI, SRDI, CDB, BSRTI, and BWMRI presented their research progress 2022-23 and

programs 2023-24 during the sessions. At the end of each session, participants took part in the discussion. The expert members provided their opinions on the presentations. Finally, the recommendations were prepared based on the views, comments, and suggestions provided by the participants and experts.

Annual Review Workshop on Biotechnology Program of NARS Institutes: Research Progress 2022-23 and Research Program 2023-24

The annual review workshop on the *Biotechnological Program of NARS Institutes* was held at BARC on 24 August 2023. The objectives of the workshop were to review the research progress 2022-23 and research programs 2023-24 of NARS institutes viz., BARI, BRRI, BINA, BJRI, BSRI, BWMRI, CDB & Universities viz., BAU, BSMRAU and SAU; National Institute of Biotechnology (NIB) and private sectors viz., BRAC & ACI. One of the objectives was to avoid duplication of research through appraisal of proposed



Hon'ble Guests of the Inaugural Session

programs aligning with various national vision documents and research priority. The inaugural session was graced by Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council as chief guest while, Dr. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops), BARC chaired the session. Scientists and academia of the relevant fields of research institutes and agri-universities attended the workshop as expert members. Dr. Md. Abdullah Yousuf Akhond Director (Research), BARI; Dr. Md. Shamsheer Ali, former DG, BINA;

Dr. Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, Member Director (PRL), Crops, BARC; Prof. Dr. Rakha Hari Sarker (Retd.), Dept. of Botany, DU; Prof. Dr. Shahidul Haque, Dept. of Biotechnology, BAU, and Prof. Dr. Mahbubur Rahman, Director IBGE, BSMRAU attended the workshop as expert members. Dr. Shah Md. Monir Hossain, Chief Scientific Officer (C.C.), Crops Division, BARC welcomed the participants and briefed last year's recommendations. The chief guest Dr. S M Bokhtiar mentioned the contribution of the

father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with due respect. He acknowledged the outstanding achievements in agriculture due to the hard labor rendered by NARS scientists. In this regard, he requested the expert members to oversee the last year's recommendations and progress. There were two technical sessions which were chaired by Dr. Mirza Mofazzal Islam, Director General, BINA, and Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops Division), BARC respectively.

A Group Discussion Meeting with BARC's Senior Scientists and External Panel of Expert Members

A Group Discussion Meeting with BARC's Senior Scientists and External Panel of Expert Members was held on 08 August 2023 at BARC, Dhaka. Dr. S M Bokhtiar, EC, BARC presided over the meeting. This Discussion meeting was organized by the Planning and Evaluation Division of BARC. Dr. Z. Karim, Chairman, EPE and former Secretary, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Secretariate, Dhaka, all External Panel of Expert Members, Senior Scientists, and Officers of BARC were present in the meeting. In that meeting, they discussed Activities performed by BARC as well as Opportunities and Challenges as per



Dr. S M Bokhtiar, EC, BARC Delivering Speech

BARC Act 2012. All MDs divisions based on the BARC Act presented the activities of concerned 2012.

Meeting on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Activities

As the Scheme Owner (SO), BARC has been putting lots of effort into setting up Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Bangladesh at the field level. The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) has already approved the GAP standards (Modules) and certification marks/logo. In addition, external auditors for the GAP filed inspection have also been

nominated. In the GAP-Scheme Owner coordination meeting, fifteen crops (ten vegetables and five fruits) with locations were primarily selected for the development of the GAP protocol under the PARTNER project. The soil & water quality parameters with expected limits have been determined for farm/field validation of GAP by two separate technical

committees through four meetings. The 3rd GAP Technical Committee meeting was held on 17 September 2023, presided over by Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC and Convener of this Committee. Mr. Tajul Islam Patuary, Director (Field Service Wing), DAE and member secretary of this committee, and Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (crops)

and convener of GAP unit, BARC moderated the meeting according to the agenda. Dr. Zakiah Rahman Moni, PSO (Nutrition) and member secretary of the GAP unit, BARC presented the technical issues in this meeting. As the scheme owner in the PARTNER project, BARC has been mandated to prepare the fifteen GAP protocol corroboration with DAE and BARI. With the implementation of GAP, safe food would be ensured for domestic consumers and will open a new window for the export market.



Meeting on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Activities

Annual Review Workshop on Crop Improvement Program of NARS Institutes: Research Progress (2022-23) & Research Program (2023-24)



Expert Members of the Annual Review Workshop

The annual review workshop on the *Crop Improvement Program of NARS Institutes* was held at BARC from 22-23 August 2023. The objectives of the workshop were to review the research progress, 2022-23 and research programs, 2023-24 of nine NARS institutes viz, BARI, BRRI, BINA, BJRI, BSRI, BSRTI, BTRI, BWMRI, and CDB. The workshop also aimed to avoid duplication of research after apprising proposed programs aligning various national vision documents and research priority.

Scientists and academia of the relevant fields of the research institutes and Faculty members of different Agricultural Universities attended the workshop as expert members and provided various remarks or suggestions for incorporation while planning future research programs.

Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC was present as a chief guest in the inaugural session. He applauded scientists for their outstanding work towards present

agricultural achievement especially in rice self-sufficiency and productivity of different crops. He encouraged scientists to publish their research articles in reputed journals to build up their better careers as well as international exposure. He stressed concentrating on promoting commercial agriculture and aspects of advanced technology including 4IR in the context of climate vulnerability and increased demand for nutrition-rich high-value crops. Six expert members namely, Dr. Shahabuddin

Ahmed, Former Director (HRC), BARI; Dr. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury, Former Member Director (Crops Division) BARC; Dr. Md. Abdul Latif Akanda, Former Director (ORC), BARI; Prof. Dr. Gazi Md. Mohsin, NSTU; Prof. Dr. Naheed Zeba, Dept of GPB, SAU and Prof.

Dr. A.K.M. Aminul Islam; Director (Research), BSMRAU attended the technical sessions for over-viewing and providing appropriate suggestions for further improvement of the programs. There were four technical sessions chaired by Dr. Prof. Dr. Lutfur

Rahman, Former Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, BAU; Dr. Md. Matiur Rahman, Former Director General, BARI; Dr. Bhagya Rani Banik, Former Executive Chairman, BARC; and Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops Division), BARC respectively.

Annual Workshop on Research Review 2022-23 and Research Program 2023-24 on Agricultural Engineering of NARS Institutes

Agricultural Engineering Unit, Natural Resources Management Division, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) organized *Research Review 2022-23 and Research Program 2023-24 on Agricultural Engineering of NARS Institutes* in BARC from September 4-5, 2023 with the participation of the institutes of National Agricultural Research System (BARI, BRRI, BINA, BSRI and BWMRI), Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC), Rural Development Academy (RDA), Bangladesh Safe Food Authority, CEGIS, Agricultural Universities, Metal Bangladesh, etc.

The workshop was divided into an inaugural, three technical, and a concluding session. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. Md. Baktar Hossain, Member Director (NRM), BARC, and Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim, Member Director (Livestock) and CSO (Ad. Ch.), AEU, BARC was present as Guest of Honour.

Technical session-I (Farm Machinery) and technical session-II



Pictorial View of the Inaugural Session

(Post Harvest Technology) held on September 4, 2023, were chaired by Engr. M. Harun Ur Rashid, former Director General, BARI & former Executive Chairman, BARC, and Professor Dr. Md. Shams-Ud-Din, former Vice-Chancellor, PSTU, respectively. Technical Session-III (Irrigation and Water Management) held on September 5, 2023, was chaired by Dr. Wais Kabir, former Executive Chairman, BARC and former Executive Director, KGF. Invited heads of different agricultural engineering divisions of BARI, BRRI, BINA, BSRI, and

BWMRI presented their research progress 2022-23 and programs 2023-24 during the session I, II & III. At the end of each session, participants took part in the discussion on the presentations made by participating institutes. Invited expert members then provided their opinions on the presentations. Finally, recommendations were prepared based on the views, comments, and suggestions provided by the participants and experts.

Inception Workshop on Improvement of Existing Pineapple-based Agroforestry Practices and Estimation of GHG Emissions

An Inception Workshop of the 5th Call Project by Krishi Gobeshona Foundation (KGF) on *TF119: Improvement of existing pineapple-based agroforestry practices and estimation of GHG emissions* was held on 17 August 2023 at the KGF Annex Building, Farmgate, Dhaka. Dr. Jiban Krishna Biswas, Executive Director of KGF, presided over the session. Dr. Md. Golam Mahboob, Principal Scientific Officer (Forestry), BARC, and project CI, presented the project's specific activities, methodology, and outcomes. The 29 experts from different organizations attended the program. Based on the presentation, certain questions were thoroughly examined, and some comments, ideas, and proposals for improving project operations were



Pictorial View of the Workshop

made. The participating organizations graciously accepted the experts' insightful recommendations and submitted the Inception Workshop's report to KGF by complying with the remarks.

Data Enumerators Training for Baseline Survey of Pineapple-based Agroforestry Practices

A day-long training was held at BARI, Akbarpur, Moulvibazar on *Data Enumerators Training for Baseline Survey of Pineapple-based Agroforestry Practices* on 28 September 2023. Fifteen participants from Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh, and BARI, Akbarpur attended the training. Among them, six (06) participants were female. Everybody enjoyed the five (05) different lectures delivered by the scientists and experts on the specific subjects. Dr. Md. Golam Mahboob, PSO (Forestry) and CI (Coordination Component) of the project delivered the welcome address. Dr. Md. Jamal Hossain, Chief Scientific Officer, RARS, BARI, Akbarpur was present as Chief Guest, and Dr. Md. Saifullah, Member Director (A&F) and CSO (Forestry), BARC, Dhaka



Dr. Md. Saifullah, Member Director, BARC Delivering Speech

offered his valuable speech as Course Director of the training. He also distributed course completion certificates among the participants for successful completion of the training.

Annual Review Workshop on the Progress of the Work Plan 2022-23 and Proposal for the Work Plan 2023-24

A day-long Annual Review Workshop on the *Progress of the Work Plan 2022-23 and Proposal for the Work Plan 2023-24* was organized by the Planning and Evaluation Division, BARC on 07 August 2023 at BARC. The objectives of the workshop were to review the progress of research activities for FY 2022-23 and the proposed annual work plan for FY 2023-24. The inaugural session was presided over by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Planning & Evaluation), BARC. Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC was present as a chief guest of the inaugural session. Dr. Kabir Uddin Ahmed, Chief Scientific Officer (Planning

& Evaluation) at BARC gave the welcome speech. There were two technical sessions followed by an inaugural session where respective scientists of the Division/Centre/Unit presented the



Picture of the Annual Review Workshop

progress of Work Plan 2022-23 and the proposed Annual Work Plan of FY 2023-24. Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC presided over the 1st & 2nd technical sessions. During the technical sessions, the session chair invited the respective presenters to present the progress achieved during the previous year's activities and to present the work plan designed for

the upcoming year, as per the scheduled. Following the conclusion of all presentations, participants were engaged in a concise discussion, leading to the formulation of the subsequent recommendations. The session chair also suggested all the Head of Division/Centre/Unit takes necessary action in this regard.

Workshop on Data Standardization and Interoperability for Smart Agriculture

Three workshops on *Data Standardization and Interoperability for Smart Agriculture* were conducted by the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) in collaboration with a2i. The first workshop, titled *Agriculture Data Review for Standardization and Interoperability of Agro-Data Ecosystem* took place during August 13-14, 2023, at BARC. The second workshop, *Smart Agriculture Data Review Workshop for Standardization and Interoperability* was organized

during August 27-28, 2023 at the same venue. Consequently, the third workshop, titled *Data Standardization and Interoperability Workshop with the Private Sector for Smart Agriculture* was held on September 7 & 9, 2023 at the BARC Training Building.

Dr. S M Bokhtiar hon'ble executive chairman of BARC was present as chief guest, and Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla, Member Director of AERS Division chaired these programs. The inaugural session featured a welcome address by Mr.

Hasan Md. Hamidur Rahman, Director (Computer & GIS) provided insights into the contemporary state and significance of data standardization & interoperability. Mr. Manik Mahmud, programme specialist innovation, a2i delivered a speech emphasizing the imperative need for data standardization to foster smart agriculture in alignment with the vision of smart Bangladesh. Throughout the workshops, various institutions and organizations were engaged in technical sessions, presenting both external and



Participants of the workshop

internal datasets across diverse sectors, including agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and forestry.

Earlier this year, a comprehensive 3 days long residential workshop was held at the National Agricultural Training Academy (NATA) in Gazipur featuring participants from 26 relevant institutions and organizations. The workshop aimed to harness the collective knowledge and experience of the participants through collaborative brainstorming sessions. The NATA workshop led

to the arrangement of subsequent three workshops focused on dataset validation. In the first workshop, participants analyzed draft datasets related to crops. Similarly, the second workshop concentrated on the analysis of draft datasets related to livestock, fisheries, and forestry. The third workshop has shown active participation from private organizations, with attendees sharing internal datasets and insights into ongoing projects.

As a result of the comprehensive

dataset analysis, a total of 33 draft datasets were meticulously prepared. This compilation involved the integration of 30 existing datasets and the introduction of three new datasets. The overarching goal of these efforts was to promote interoperability in the fields of agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and forestry. All these activities aimed to establish a national framework for data standardization and interoperability in the agriculture sector of Bangladesh.

Farmers Training for Pineapple-Based Agroforestry Practices

A day-long training was held at BARI, Akbarpur, Moulvibazar to train Farmers in *Pineapple-based Agroforestry Practices* on 27 September 2023. Twenty trainees from Akbarpur, Giashnagar, and Moulvibazar Sadar attended the training. Among them, three were female participants. Everybody enjoyed the five (05) different topics of lectures delivered by renowned scientists and experts in the specific subjects. Dr. Md. Sarwar Alam, SSO and PI (BARI Component) of the project, delivered the welcome address. Dr. Md. Jamal Hossain, Principal Scientific Officer, RARS, BARI, Akbarpur, was present as Guest of Honor, and Dr. Md. Saifullah, Member Director (A&F)



Picture of the Training Program

and CSO (Forestry) (A.C.), BARC, Dhaka, offered his valuable speech as Course Director of the training. In his speech, he emphasized the

capacity building of farmers for resource management. The farmers expressed their high level of

satisfaction after receiving the training on pineapple-based agroforestry.

Agricultural Technology Uptake Assessment Workshop in Rajshahi Region

A Workshop on *Agricultural Technology Uptake Assessment Workshop in Jessore Region* was held on 27 September 2023 at RARS, BARI, Jashore. Dr. N. I. Bhuiyan, Member of the External Panel of Experts and former DG, BRRI was the chief guest, while the technical session was presided over by Md. Monjurul Haque, Deputy Director, DAE, Jashore, All DDs of Jashore region (Jashore, Jhenaidah, Chuadanga, Meherpur, Kushtia & Magura district) presented the technologies adopted by farmers of their respective districts are generated by the NARS institutes. The objectives of the workshop were presented by Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (P&E), BARC and Co-investigator, Improving Research Qualities of ARIs Project. The workshop was



Picture of the Workshop

jointly organized by the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) and the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC). All External Panels of Experts, Scientists of NARS, and representatives from BADC, SCA,

NGO, ATI, BMDA, SRDI, BJRI, farmers, and all relevant shareholders were present in the workshop. The External Panel of Experts would analyze the report provided by DAE and will make recommendations on that.

Annual Review Workshop on Insect Management Program of NARS Institutes

The annual review workshop on *the Insect Management Program of NARS institutes* viz. BARI, BINA, BRRI, BJRI, BWMRI, BSRI, BTRI, BSRTI, CDB, and BSRTI, was held at BARC on 31 August 2023. The workshop aimed to assess the research progress for the year 2022-23 and the research program for 2023-24 of NARS institutes. The objectives were to prevent research duplication, address research needs arising from climate change issues, and initiate future research programs in alignment with various vision documents and research priorities. The workshop was featured on the participation of scientists and academicians from relevant research institutes and agricultural universities, serving as expert

members. They offered valuable insights and suggestions to guide the formulation of future research programs. The inaugural session was graced by Dr. Shaikh Mohammad Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council, as chief guest. Dr. Md. Abdus Salam, Member Director (Crops) (R.C.), BARC, chaired the session. Dr. Md. Jamal Uddin, Principal Scientific Officer, Crops Division, BARC, welcomed the participants and provided an overview of the recommendations from the previous year.

Six expert members attended the workshop, namely Prof. Dr. Md. Mahbubur Rahman, Former Vice-Chancellor, BSMRAU, Salna, Gazipur; Dr. Khandakar Shariful

Islam, Retired Professor, Department of Entomology, BAU, Mymensingh; Prof. Dr. Md. Ramiz Uddin Miah, Department of Entomology, BSMRAU, Salna, Gazipur; Dr. Syed Nurul Alam, Former Director, Planning and Evaluation Wing, BARI, Gazipur; Dr. Mainul Haq, Ex-CSO and Head, Entomology Division, BRRI, Gazipur; and Prof. Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin, Department of Entomology, BSMRAU, Salna, Gazipur. During the workshop, two technical sessions were chaired by Prof. Dr. Md. Mahbubur Rahman, Former VC, BSMRAU, and Dr. Debasish Sarker, Director General, BARI, Gazipur, respectively. The recommendation session was chaired by Dr. S M Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, BARC.

The BARC Newsletter is published quarterly by Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) to provide news and information on agricultural research and development of the NARS and other concerned organizations in Bangladesh.

Any query concerning the Newsletter or its contents, comments and suggestions for our Endeavour would highly be appreciated.

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