1. **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

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| **Acronym / Abbreviation** | **Elaboration** |
| ATC | Agricultural Technical Committee |
| ADB | Asian Development Bank |
| AEZ | Agro Ecological Zone |
| AfDB | African Development Bank |
| AIS | Agriculture Information Service |
| BARI | Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute |
| BAU | Bangladesh Agricultural University |
| BBS | Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics |
| BDS | Business Development Services |
| BFSA | Bangladesh Food Safety Authority |
| BMDA | Barind Multipurpose Development Authority |
| BSTI | Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute |
| CALIP | Climate Adaptation and Livelihood Protection |
| CBOs | Community Based Organizations |
| CCRIP | Coastal Climate Resilient Infrastructure Project |
| CDSOP IV | Char Development and Settlement Project IV |
| COVID-19 | Corona Virus Disease 2019 |
| CSA | Climate Smart Agriculture |
| DAE | Department of Agricultural Extension |
| DAM | Department Agricultural Marketing |
| DCFs | Digital Champion Farmers |
| DPP | Development Project Proposal |
| DVC | Digital Village Centre |
| ERD | Economic Relations Division |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| FCS | Food Consumption Score |
| FFS | Farmer’s Field School |
| FGs | Farmer’s Groups |
| FIAC | Farmer’s Information and Advisory Centre |
| FIES | Food Insecurity Experience Scale |
| GAFSP | Global Agriculture & Food Security Program |
| GAP | Good Agricultural Practices |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| GED | General Economic Division |
| GGR | Global Gender Gap Report |
| GHGs | Greenhouse Gases |
| GHP | Good Hygiene Practices |
| GoBD | Government of Bangladesh |
| HH | Household |
| HILIP | Haor Infrastructure and Livelihood Project |
| HRD | Human Resource Development |
| HVC | High Value Crop |
| ICT | Information and Communication Technology |
| ICU | Implementation Coordination Unit |
| IFAD | International Fund for Agricultural Development |
| IDB | Inter-American Development Bank |
| IGAs | Income Generation Activities |
| IPM | Integrated Pest Management |

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| **Acronym / Abbreviation** | **Elaboration** |
| IT | Information Technology |
| LDC | Least Developed Country |
| LGED | Local Government Engineering Department |
| MDD-C | Minimum Dietary Diversity-Children |
| MDD-W | Minimum Dietary Diversity-Women |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| MMI | Missing Middle Initiative |
| MoA | Ministry of Agriculture |
| NBCC | Nutrition Behaviour Change Communication |
| NGOs | Non Government Organizations |
| ODA | Official Development Assistance |
| O & M | Operation and Maintenance |
| PACE | Promoting Agricultural Commercialization and Enterprises Project |
| PD | Project Director |
| PIU | Project Implementation Unit |
| PKSF | Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation |
| PO | Producer Organization |
| PP | Perspective Plan |
| PPP | Public Private Partnership |
| PSC | Project Steering Committee |
| RLF | Revolving Loan Fund |
| RMM | Results Monitoring Matrix |
| RPSF | Rural Poor Stimulus Facility |
| SAAOs | Sub Assistant Agricultural Officers |
| SACP | Smallholders Agricultural Competitiveness Project |
| SBKS | Sara Bangla Krishak Society |
| SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| SE | Supervising Entity |
| SLCPs | Short Lived Climate Pollution |
| SMEs | Small and Medium Enterprises |
| SORT | Systematic Operations Risk Rating Tool |
| SPS | Phyto-sanitary Standards |
| TA | Technical Assistance |
| ToT | Training of the Trainers |
| USG | Urea Super Granule |
| US$ | United States Dollar |
| VC | Value Chain |
| VCCs | Virtual Call Centers |
| WB | World Bank |
| WFP | World Food Programme |
| WUG | Water User Groups |
| 8FYP | 8th Five Year Plan |

1. **Summary of the Country-Led GAFSP Proposal for Bangladesh**

**GAFSP grant funding**. The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) works to improve the income and food security of poor people in low-income countries through public and private sector investments, as well as technical assistance and advisory services. GAFSP aims to fill the financing and technical gaps in country-owned and country-led agriculture and food security strategies and plans. GAFSP invites Governments and Producer Organizations (POs) to submit proposals for investment grants and technical assistance to support the implementation of country-led initiatives. The Call for Proposals is being launched in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic. Therefore, GAFSP funding will support countries’ medium- to long-term COVID-19 response efforts for a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient recovery of their agriculture and food systems in a changing climate to ‘build back better. 1Bangladesh is among the eligible countries for grant funding application.

**The Country-led proposal of Bangladesh**. The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is preparing a country-led proposal, in close partnership with IFAD and FAO, which are proposed to be the proposed project’s preferred Supervising Entities, respectively for investments and for technical assistance.

The MoA intends to apply for a GAFSP grant funding of US$25 million, with private sector investment of US$2 million from participating agro-enterprises’ matching, and government matching of US$5 million mainly in participating staff salaries, offices, and ongoing programme matching in agricultural machinery and processing and storage facilities. Project cost is estimated for a total of US$32 million, all financiers combined.

**Geographic coverage**. 18 districts (out of total 45) and 97 upazilas (out of 257) will be covered by project implementation. The areas covered fall under three of the six climate hotspots identified in the Government’s Bangladesh Delta Plan, 21001 - the Coastal Zone, the Barind and Drought Prone Areas, and the River Systems and Estuaries (Char) hotspot areas.

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| **Climate Hotspot Zone** | **Districts** | **Remarks** |
| Coastal Zone | Satkhira, Khulna, Borguna, Patuakhali, Bhola, Lakshmipur | 6 of total 19 |
| Barind and Drought Prone Areas | Rajshahi, Chapainawabganj, Noagaon, Bogura, Joypurhat, Dinajpur | 6 of total 10 |
| River Systems and Estuaries (Char) | Kurigram, Jamalpur, Gaibandha, Tangail, Pabna, Rajbari | 6 of total 16 |

**Target population, target group and targeting strategy**. The proposed project districts cover 14.58 million acres of agricultural land, of which 50% is irrigated land. The project has the potential of directly reaching 800,000 rural households or 4,400,000 people. Female direct participation is estimated at 35%, youth at 40% and ethnic vulnerable people[[1]](#footnote-2) [[2]](#footnote-3) at 20%. The selection of project beneficiaries will be undertaken based on an inclusive targeting strategy focusing on marginal and small farmers, with at least 80% of beneficiaries coming from these categories. Youth will constitute up to 20% of beneficiaries and women participation will target at least 35%, ethnic vulnerable people 20%. The project will take existing or new farmer groups that are formed by local DAE for agricultural production and marketing as its entry point.

**The project approach.** This proposed project will be implemented over four years in line with the government’s agriculture and food security development agenda as described in the Eighth Five-Year Plan (07/2020-06/2025). It will invest in restoring and developing agriculture productivity and diversification capacity as immediate reactions to the COVID-19 crisis and subsequently invest in strengthening the basis for a more sustainable and nutrition sensitive food system after the crisis, with a focus on “building back better”. The project implementation will follow the Government DPP for approved donor-assisted project design reports; it will target the vulnerable men and women living in three climate hotspots identified in the Government’s Delta Plan, 2100[[3]](#footnote-4) by taking the farmer groups as entry points to reach out to the vulnerable women, youth, ethnic groups among other target segments. The project will address the identified thematic focus areas of gender empowerment of women and girls, climate resilience and nutrition outcomes by: a) designing specific and exclusively tailored activities, and b) building relevant actions under activities to ensure the issues will be addressed, target groups reached and targets achieved.

**Coping with COVID-19 and afterward**. Bangladesh did not face a crisis of food shortage at national level but marginal and rural vulnerable groups have been severely affected in their daily income and food security. Negative impacts on agriculture can be summarized as: (i) disrupted agricultural supply chains, (ii) curbed food consumption behaviour of poor and vulnerable groups, (iii) widespread temporary unemployment and loss of income sources, (iv) reduced farmers’ market access for procuring raw materials and hiring labourers, (v) destroyed underdeveloped productive capacities, (vi) low prices of forced sales of agri-products mainly at farmgate, (vi) increased food loss and waste, and (vii) adversely affected nutrition and food security. Therefore, shielding the agricultural sector from the vulnerabilities exposed during the COVID-19 crisis is essential to cope with the immediate shocks as well as to prepare better to ensure medium- to long-term food security

*Immediate coping solutions*. This proposal includes immediate response actions such as for example under component 1: diffusion of proven existing emergency packages and solutions for both consumption and production, identification of rapidly ready nutrition solutions for adaptation, household food-based system adoption with diversified nutrition sources, and under component 2 Covid-19 Response in Agri-Product Collection Points.

*Building back better with medium and long-term perspectives*. The majority of proposed interventions are related to building back better with longer perspectives but achievable effects in short-term. The project will address the priority areas of government investment priority in agriculture and food security, or a sustainable food system at its production or supply side, with project investments primarily on generation, diffusion and distribution of diversified varieties and new technologies, sustainable and climate-smart on-farm water management, reduction of post-harvest losses and improved market access for better price premium from informed nutritious and safe foods. The project will invest in decentralized and demand-led agricultural extension, research-extension-farmer linkage, post-harvest management, market access, e-commerce and digital solutions as stipulated in the government’s Eighth Five-Year Plan, and these constitute the primary activities proposed in this GAFSP proposal. The proposed project will take advantage of the analysis of the private sector investments environments that has been undertaken by the ongoing SACP of MoA-IFAD cooperation. The analysis will be periodically updated by SACP management team and local stakeholders.

**Components**. Two technical components are proposed, namely Component 1 - Agricultural Diversification and On-Farm Water Management, and Component 2 - Post-Harvest Management and Market Access, supported by a Management and Coordination Component that includes policy advocacy. The project will support increased production diversification, identify market opportunities for both fresh and processed agri-products, value added post-harvest management, build agricultural competitiveness in stress tolerant and climate-smart, high-value and nutrition sensitive varieties and new technologies at both institutional and household level through two technical components supported by a project management component. FAO technical assistance will provide technical contributions in support of the three components in areas where its core competencies are recognized both in the country and worldwide. Cross-cutting themes will be addressed under proposed relevant activities and actions as integrated parts of the project implementation, being monitored with measurable indicators.

**Implementation management**. A central Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will be embedded in DAE of MoA with coordination focal points from DAM, BARI and other relevant departments and agencies. Under the overall management of this PIU, three Regional Project Implementation Units will be established and located in the project areas of Southern Coastal zone, Barind Tract and Char zone to assume the operational management of planning, coordinating, M&E, knowledge management and financial management in line with the project objective and design. The central PIU will be led by a Project Director appointed by MoA supported by a team of technical experts to monitor and evaluate project activities as they unfold. In addition, a Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be formed Chaired by the Secretary MoA and comprise of representatives from relevant Line Departments, ERD, the Planning Commission, relevant officers of the BARC, DAE and DAM, the supervising entity (IFAD), FAO, and Civil Society Organizations and farmers’ organizations at the discretion of the Chair.

**Supervising entity for investments** will be IFAD and it ensures the related responsibilities and tasks under the framework of its country programme in Bangladesh, which will be mainly assumed by its Country Office in Dhaka, and supported by its Sub-Regional Hub in Delhi and its HQ in Rome.. IFAD will be responsible for supervising the overall effectiveness and efficiency of implementation, quality of operational management, financial management and fiduciary aspects, and procurement among others.

**Supervising entity for technical assistance** will be FAO. FAO will provide demand-led TA to the project as proposed under each component.

Following is an overview on the proposed project’s development objective, expected outcomes and primary activities under different components.

**Outcome 2**

Enabled agribusiness environment for public-private partnership, with improved post-harvest management and efficiency of market access

**GAFSP OVERVIEW FRAMEWORK**

**Development Objective**

To contribute to achieving food security, and promoting sustainable, inclusive, climate-resilient, and nutrition­sensitive agriculture in Bangladesh, and respond to the government’s strategy of restoring and developing the agricultural supply chain aftermath of COVID-19 crisis

**Outcome 1**

Increased availability of diversified, nutritious, safe and demand- driven agri-foods by increasing productivity and production, farmers’ capability and income, efficient technology and technical services, and sustainable NRM

**Component 3**

**Policies, management and  
coordination**

* Policy advocacy
* Representation
* Operational MGT

-Vertical and horizontal coordination

* Financial management
* M&E and KM...

**Component 1  
Agricultural diversification &  
on-farm water MG**

* 1. COVID-19 response varieties and technologies
  2. Farmer production group capacity building

1. Development of stress tolerant varieties and new technologies
   1. Diffusion of diversified and improved varieties and technologies
   2. Climate smart on-farm water MGT
   3. Demand-led agricultural extension and marketing support
   4. Component-wise TA by FAO

**Component 2**

**Post-harvest MGT and market access**

* 1. COVID-19 response in agri-product collection points
  2. Processing, packaging and storage
  3. Marketing arrangement
  4. E-eommercie, branding and certification
  5. Women and youth income genration and entrepreneurship
  6. Access to finance
  7. Food safety and nutrition, post-harvest techniques (FAO TA)

Annex 8: Summary of Community Consultation Workshops in Project Areas

**The Barind Tract** lies in north-western Bangladesh between the floodplains of the rivers the Padma and the Jamuna covering 7,727 km2 area, which comprises 5.33% of the total area of the country (BBS, 2021). Based on the distinctive physiographic characters and agro-climatic conditions the Barind Tract is grouped into High Barind Tract (HBT) with 1600 km2 of deep grey terrace, Level Barind Tract with 5049 km2 of shallow grey terrace and North-Eastern Barind Tract with 1076 km2 with deep grey terrace (BBS, 2021). The HBT is characterized by its terraced land with soil of low fertility, sparse vegetation, absence of major river channels, and comparatively low rainfall with a long dry period, during October-May, and thus, is clearly differentiated from other parts of the country. It is regarded as the most drought prone area of the country due to its relatively low and erratic precipitation, limited groundwater reserves and recharge, poor water holding capacity of surface soil in the post-rainy season along with high summer air temperature (Khatun et al., 2016, Nadiruzzaman et al., 2021). Drought is likely to become more frequent and intense in the HBT area due to climate change (Hossian et al., 2016). It is also important to note that changes in the timing of drought could be another negative factor and the impact would not only be on agricultural production, but also on availability of water resources for agriculture and domestic use particularly in the dry season. It is observed that in every 10 years this area is experiencing 107 mm less rainfall with very erratic distribution, which causes drought in monsoon season as well for the cultivation of the most commonly grown crop T. *Aman* rice. Absentee land owner, insufficient farm mechanization, poor market linkage and storage facilities causing fluctuating market price of the common produce, mostly fruits like mango, guava, litchi etc. are some of common challenges for sustainable agricultural production and improved livelihood of the people in this area.

There are 12 ethnic groups living in the area, who are mostly poor agricultural laborer and they are getting marginalized day by day. These indigenous community people are to be given priority in the project along with the smallholder and marginal farmers. A very strong coordination among the farmers, researchers, extension workers, NGOs, international organizations and market actors is to be encouraged in the project proposal.

Following interventions are prioritized for incorporation into the GAFSP proposal: i) adaption of short duration and drought & heat tolerant crop species and varieties such as minor cereal crops (like millet), pulses, onion, maize, mungbean, black gram grass pea, chickpea, lentil, mustard, safflower, linseed, barley, wheat, sesame and potato in light textured soil, tomato, spices etc., ii) enhancing year round homestead vegetable and fruit cultivation using Barind model, iii) promotion of export quality fruit cultivation like mango, dragon, guava, custard apple, sugar apple following Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), strengthening integrated water resource management through rain water harvest (mini pond), its storage and efficient distribution (by low cost PVC irrigation pipe or Fita pipe, iv) integrating the water and crop governance through digitization, v) Using water saving agronomic practices like conservation agriculture, vi) Fostering household level utilization of a range of nutrient dense combinations, recipes, preparation and processing technologies, vii) Value chain development and storage capacity build up for fruits, especially for mango (to make it available year round), viii) Women and young girl entrepreneurship development targeting both domestic and international market of the crop commodities available in the region, ix) developing agro-processing industry and linking it up with nutrition, x) market development with backward and forward linkage and involving public-private-partnership, xi) Formation of Farmers’ cooperative to sustain their entrepreneurship, FFS etc., xii) Advancing farm mechanization with sufficient local service provider, xiii) sustainable management of soil acidity and soil fertility through accelerating sensor-based soil parameter determination and xv) facilitating portable solar energy use in agriculture including irrigation.

**Wetland in Coastal Area**. One of the most climate vulnerable areas of Bangladesh is the southern coastal wetland which covers about 20% of the country’s total land area and over 30 percent of the net cultivable area accommodating more than one-fifth of the total population in the country. Crop productivity in the region is severely affected by a variety of climatic hazards including prolonged submergence/ water logging during and after the monsoon season and increasing soil salinity and drought during the dry season. Under the current climate change context the intensity of climate vulnerability in the coastal area of Bangladesh is increasing day by day. For example, salt-affected areas in the coastal region of Bangladesh increased by 26.71% in 2009 from 1973 (SRDI, 2010). This aggravating agro-climatic condition in the area is posing a serious threat for crop productivity by lowering the levels of cropping intensity, crop diversity and crop yield. As a result, the area is disadvantaged by poverty, food insecurity and limited livelihood opportunities, which is reflected by nearly 65% of the population in this area living below the poverty line compared to the country’s average of 40% (World Bank, 2013).

Although salinity is a year-round problem in the coastal area of Bangladesh, it varies with the location as well as the timing of the year. Salinity level is usually lesser during monsoon season (June to October), which gradually increases from November with the onset of rainless dry period and gets it peak during March-May (Rasel et al., 2013; Shammi et al., 2019). Therefore, cultivation of *Rabi* and *Kharif* I crops are severely affected in the coastal region due to both salinity and drought. Among the salinity affected 19 coastal districts, the level of salinity is comparatively higher in Satkhira, Potuakhali, Borguna, Bhola, Noakhali, Laksmipur and Feni usually ranging from 2 to 16 dS/m (Seraj et al., 2006; Rasel et al., 2013).

The interventions which are suggested in the consultation workshop include:

1. Adaption of improved and modern stress tolerant crops and varieties (salinity and drought tolerant crops during Kharif I and Rabi and submergence tolerant crops during Khrif II). Salinity and drought tolerant crops are cowpea, water melon, sunflower, sesame, Wheat, maize, mungbean, barley, mustard, soybean, sweet potato, Summer Tomato in Satkhira; Fruits like Guava, malta etc.
2. Boosting use of both local innovative and modern component technologies such as vegetable cultivation in raised bed technique, Sorjan method of cultivation, Pyramid agriculture; Dyke cropping for vegetable cultivation, Floating agricultural practices, Year round homestead vegetable and fruit cultivation, soil less agriculture/ Hydroponic/ Aquaponics / Coco dust culture etc.
3. Facilitating Polder management and drainage
4. Infrastructure development for efficient irrigation is needed. Because of clayey soil surface irrigation is very troublesome and inefficient. Permanent subsurface irrigation systems will increase the use efficiency of irrigation water. Rain water harvest is to be strengthened through excavation/ re-excavation of ponds and canals.
5. Providing weather information alert to the community more easily and more precisely.
6. Strengthening women friendly, gender responsive and nutrition specific agricultural technologies.
7. Introduction of crop insurance for the vulnerable farmers, as crop production is risky for climate vulnerabilities.
8. Market linkage development involving women and youth in the value chain and entrepreneurship development.
9. Emphasizing wetland biodiversity management
10. Upgrading the existing extension services

Overall Inter-ministerial coordination is necessary for the management of crops, livestock, fishery, water management, beribadh and sluice gate management, trans-boundary river management.

**Char Land**. In Bangladesh, nearly 1 million hectare of land is char, which is distributed along the main rivers - Brahmaputra, Jamuna, Padma, Tista, Meghna - and their 500 branches and tributaries across the country. However, most of the char lands are concentrated in the northern, central and southern part of the country with different soil textures. Char land in the northern part is dominantly sandy, whereas char land in the southern part is mostly clayey. In the central part, char land is dominated by silty soil. The challenges associated with northern, mid region and southern chars include their vulnerability to climatic shocks such as landslides, flood, drought accompanied by heat etc. and their difficulty to access agricultural inputs due to their remote locations, poor communications, market linkage and storage facilities. There is always an uncertainty in char area, like when heavy rainfall occurs and river flow seems abnormal, all type of char can be destroyed. Because of their remoteness, technology dissemination is also very slow in the char land.

The following interventions are suggested to be incorporated into the GAFSP proposal targeting the for char land:

1. Barren fields/ Fallow lands are to be brought under crop cultivation. Main target should be focused on unstable char. Millet can be a good option as cover crop in the unstable char land. Other suitable crops may include pumpkin (pit method), linseed, ground nut, grass pea, barley, wheat, mustard, leafy vegetables, onion, coriander, linseed, fennel, sweet potato (super feed with B carotene), mustard, sunflower, onion, soybean, quinoa, chilli, maize, jute, fodder, corn silage, bio-fortified crops, Zn enrich crops etc.
2. Selection of crops is to be done based on the soil texture, soil properties, environment, water holding capacity etc., nutrition, especially micronutrients and nutrient dense food crops. High value crops with high nutrients should be included to link COVID 19 responses.
3. Facilities development for supplementary irrigation during Kharif I and Rabi season. This can be done by creating water reservoirs including pond, introducing solar irrigation, fita pipe irrigation, portable drip irrigation etc.
4. Cooperative market systems development and introduction of Local Service Providers (LSPs) from the women and young girls and their involvement in the value chain. Linkage with Financial Institution through Cooperatives.
5. Store house development including seed storage facilities. Solar based small scale storage facilities development, which can be movable.
6. Bringing char people closer to Government facilities like marketing, value chain etc. This is particularly very important under this COVID-19 pandemic situation.
7. Digital extension service, Krishi Call Centre etc. are to be strengthened, as road access is very poor. Char allowance for the government officials is to be given to promote technology transfer
8. Private sector and SME development involving women and youth. Private sector is to be linked along with public sector with the Char value chain. Development of micro seed entrepreneur.
9. Women empowerment, women and child nutrition, diversified food recipe, awareness on nutrition, behavioral change, locally readymade food during crisis period to overcome hidden hunger. School meal program can be introduced.
10. Mixed homestead fruit orchard development keeping the stability of char in mind. Homestead vegetable cultivation through sack culture during monsoon season
11. Farm mechanization like dryer, portable machineries etc.

Coordination of all the people/ researcher working in char land and initiating livelihood based program are important. All services from a single point through proper monitoring and coordination should be facilitated.

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FAO Team 13

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Research Organizations 15

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| **No.** | **Organi­zation** | **Name** | **Designation** | **Char Land 16-Aug- 21** | **Barind Land 17-Aug- 21** | **Coastal Wetland 18-Aug- 21** |
|  | **Government Focal persons** | | |  |  |  |
| 1 | MoA | Mrs. Tajkera Khatun | Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture | V | V | V |
| 2 | BARC | Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan | Member Director, Natural Resource Management Division | V | V | V |
| 3 | DAM | Dr. Mohammed Razu Ahmed | Deputy Director (Deputy Secretary), Department of Agricultural Marketing | V | V | V |
| 4 | DAE | Mr Mohammod Mohsin | Deputy Director (Project Evaluation and Monitoring), Planning, Project Implementation and ICT Wing |  |  | V |
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| 5 | BARI | Dr. Md. Shahiduzzaman | CSO, OFRD, BARI, Gazipur | V | V | V |
| 6 | RDA | Mr M A Matin | Former Director General, Rural Development Academy | V | V | V |
| 7 | BARI, Gaibandha | Mr Abdullah-Al-Mamun | PSO, OFRD, Gaibandha, BARI | V |  |  |
| 8 | BARI, Rangpur | Dr. Md. Al Amin Hussain | Senior Scientific Officer, On Farm Research Division | V |  |  |
| 9 | BARI, Mymensing h | Dr. Nargis Sultana | Scientific Officer, On Farm Research Division | V |  |  |

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| **No.** | **Organi­zation** | **Name** | **Designation** | **Char Land 16-Aug- 21** | **Barind Land 17-Aug- 21** | **Coastal Wetland 18-Aug- 21** |
| 10 | BARI, Kushtia | Dr. Jahan Al Mahmud | Scientific Officer, On Farm Research Division | V |  |  |
| 11 | BARI, Tangail | Dr. Md. Abdul Helim Khan | Scientific Officer, On Farm Research Division | V |  |  |
| 12 | BARI, Kishorganj | Dr. Md. Mohiuddin | Scientific Officer, On Farm Research Division | V |  |  |
| 13 | BARI, Gazipur | Dr. Muhammad Shahiduzzaman | Chief Scientific Officer, On Farm Research Division | V |  |  |
| 14 | BARI, Sherpur | Dr. Md. Shamsur Rahman | Senior Scientific Officer, On Farm Research Division | V |  |  |
| 15 | BARI, Manikganj | Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin | Senior Scientific Officer, On Farm Research Division | V |  |  |
| 16 | BARI, Rangpur | Dr. Md. Shamim Hossain Molla | Scientific Officer, On Farm Research Division | V |  |  |
| 17 | BARI, Borguna | Dr Md Shahidul Alam | PSO, OFRD, Bogura, BARI | V |  |  |
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| 22 | BARI, Pabna | Dr. Md. Robiul Alam | PSO, OFRD, Pabna |  | V |  |
| 23 | BARI, Chapainawa bganj | Dr. Md. Mokhlesur Rahman | CSO, RHRC, ChapaiNawabgonj |  | V |  |
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| 30 | DAE | K. J. M. Abdul Awal | DD, Rajshahi |  | V |  |
| 31 | DAE | Md. Nazrul Islam | DD, ChapaiNawabgonj |  | V |  |
| 32 | DAE | Md. Shamsul Wadud | DD, Naogaon |  | V |  |
| 33 | BADC | Md. Delwar Hossain | JD (Seed Marketing), Rajshahi |  | V |  |
| 34 | BMDA | Dr. Md. Abul Kasem | SE, Rajshahi |  | V |  |
| 35 | DAM | Dr. Md. Abul Kasem | SE, Rajshahi |  | V |  |
| 36 | DAE Khulna | GMA Gafur | Additional Director |  |  | V |
| 37 | DAE Khulna | Md. Hafizur Rahman | Deputy Director |  |  | V |
| 38 | DAE Jhalakathi | Mr Md Falul Hoque | Deputy Director |  |  | V |

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| **No.** | **Organi­zation** | **Name** | **Designation** | **Char Land 16-Aug- 21** | **Barind Land 17-Aug- 21** | **Coastal Wetland 18-Aug- 21** |
| 39 | DAE Gopalganj | Dr. Arbind Kumar Roy | Deputy Director |  |  | V |
| 40 | DAE Patuakhali | AKM Mohi Uddin | Deputy Director |  |  | V |
| 41 | BARI- Barishal | Raziuddin | Scientific Officer, Regional Agricultural Research Station |  |  | V |
| 42 | BARI- Barishal | Md. Rafi Uddin | Chief Scientific Officer, Regional Agricultural Research Station |  |  | V |
| 43 | BARI- Barishal | Dr. Md. Mahbubur Rahman | Scientific Officer, Regional Agricultural Research Station |  |  | V |
| 44 | BARI- Patuakhali | Dr. Mohammad Idris Ali Howlader | Principal Scientific Officer, Regional Horticultural Research Center |  |  | V |
| 45 | BARI- Bhola | Gazi Nazmul Hasan | Senior Scientific Officer, On farm Research Division |  |  | V |
| 46 | BARI- Satkhira | Oli Ahmed Fakir | Scientific Officer, Regional Agricultural Research Station |  |  | V |
| 47 | BARI- Gazipur | Dr. Muhammad Shahiduzzaman | Chief Scientific Officer, Regional Agricultural Research Station |  |  | V |
| 48 | BINA- Barishal | Md. Sohel Rana | Scientific Officer, BINA Sub-station |  |  | V |
| 49 | BRRI- Barishal | Dr. Md. Alamgir Hossain | Chief Scientific Officer and Head, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute |  |  | V |
| 50 | BARI- Rajshahi | Dr. Md. Shakhawat Hossain | SSO, OFRD, BARI, Barind station, Rajshahi |  |  | V |
| 51 | KGF | Mr Wais Kabir | Former Executive Director, Krishi Gobeshona Foundation |  |  | V |
|  | **Consultation Speaker** | | |  |  |  |
| 52 | BSMRAU | Dr. M. Abdul Karim | Char Land Agriculture, Professor, Department of Agronomy, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University | V |  |  |
| 53 | BARI- Rajshahi | Dr. Md. Shakhawat Hossain | Barind Agriculture, SSO, OFRD, BARI, Barind station, Rajshahi |  | V | V |
| 54 | BARI- Barishal | Dr. Md. Alimur Rahman | Coastal Wetland Agriculture, Principal Scientific Officer, RARS, BARI, Rahmatpur, Barishal |  |  | V |
|  | **IFAD Team** | | |  |  |  |
| 55 | IFAD | Mr Akkas | National Consultant | V | V | V |
| 56 | IFAD | Mr Kamal | National Consultant | V | V | V |
|  | **FAO Team** | | |  |  |  |
| 57 | FAO | Mr Nur Ahamed Khondaker | Assistant FAO Representative (Programme) | V | V | V |
| 58 | FAO | Bhattacharjee, Lalita | FAO Bangladesh | V | V | V |
| 59 | FAO | Mr Anil Kumar Das | National Consultant Programme | V | V | V |

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| **No.** | **Organi­zation** | **Name** | **Designation** | **Char Land 16-Aug- 21** | **Barind Land 17-Aug- 21** | **Coastal Wetland 18-Aug- 21** |
| 60 | FAO | Ms Farazi Binti Ferdous | National Consultant Programme | V | V | V |
| 61 | FAO | Mr Mohammad Amirul Islam | National Consultant | V | V | V |
| 62 | FAO | Mr Moin us Salam | Senior Agriculture Sector Development Expert | V | V | V |
| 63 | FAO | Mr Abdul Kader | National Lead Agronomist | V | V | V |
| 64 | FAO | Mr Kazi Emdadul | National Logistic and Operations Associate | V | V | V |
| 65 | FAO | Mr Tayan Gurung | Senior Technical Advisor | V | V | V |
| 66 | FAO-MMI | Mr ImanunNabi Khan | National Project Coordinator | V | V | V |
| 67 | FAO-MMI | Mr Md Hanif | FAO-MMI |  | V | V |
| 68 | FAO-MMI | Mr Asaduzzaman Sazal | FAO-MMI |  | V | V |
| 69 | FAO-MMI | Mr Md Mahmudul Hossain |  |  |  | V |
| 70 | FAO | Mr Imtiazahmad Ahmad | Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist | V | V | V |
| 71 | FAO | Ms Nusrat Jahan | Assistant National Operations Specialist | V | V | V |
| 72 | FAO | Ms Nusrat Alam Nabila | Programme Support Assistant | V | V | V |
| 73 | FAO | Ms Samia Rahman | National Project Personnel - Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning | V | V | V |
| 74 | FAO | Mr Gazi Sipar Hossain | National Programme Specialist | V | V | V |
| 75 | FAO | Ms Rebeka Supti | Programme Support Assistant | V | V | V |
| 76 | FAO | Ms Wajiha Khatun | National Nutrition Specialist | V | V | V |
| 77 | FAO | Sushmita Tripura | Intern | V | V | V |
| 78 | FAO | Rechel Rema | Intern- Agricultural Supply Chain Study | V | V | V |
| 79 | FAO | Hlamraching Marma | Intern- Hill Farming System Study | V | V | V |
| 80 | FAO | Borsha Rongdi | Intern- Climate Change and Food System Study | V | V | V |
| 81 | FAO | Ms Nazrin Sultana | National Consultant- Graphic Design & Communications | V | V | V |
| 82 | FAO | Ms Khadeja Tul Kobra | Programme Support Assistant | V | V | V |
| 83 | FAO | Ms Lathuenu Marma | National Field Monitor | V | V | V |
| 84 | FAO | Mr Debasish Tripura | National Field Monitor | V | V | V |
| 85 | FAO | Ms Ambia Begum |  | V | V | V |
| 86 | FAO | Ms Husne Ara |  | V | V | V |
| 87 | FAO | Prof Parimal Kanti Biswas | Soil and Plant National Consultant | V | V | V |
| 88 | FAO | Ms Shamsun Naima Rahman | National Programme Specialist | V | V | V |
| 89 | FAO | Mr Uttam Mozumder | National Field Monitor | V | V | V |
| 90 | FAO | Prof Dr Mahmudul Sikder | National Technical Advisor for One Health | V | V |  |
| 91 | FAO | Mr Arfan Uzzaman | National Climate Change MRV Expert | V | V |  |
| 92 | FAO-SACP | Ms Tahmina Begum | Farmer Field School Specialist |  | V |  |

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| **No.** | **Organi­zation** | **Name** | **Designation** | **Char Land 16-Aug- 21** | **Barind Land 17-Aug- 21** | **Coastal Wetland 18-Aug- 21** |
| 93 | FAO-SACP | Mr Md Sayedur Rahman |  |  |  | V |
| 94 | FAO | Mr Jayanta Bhattacharje |  | V | V | V |
| 95 | FAO | Prof Zulfikar Rahman |  |  |  | V |
|  | **Food Safety Authority** | | |  |  |  |
| 96 | MoFood | Dr Prof Abdul Alim | Member, Food Safety Authority | V | V | V |
| 97 | BFSA | Mr. Mohammad Kawserul Islam Sikder | Deputy Secretary, Bangladesh Food Safety Authority | V | V | V |
|  | **Universities** | | |  |  |  |
| 98 | BAU | Prof Dr Mohammad Gulzarul Aziz | Department of Food Technology and Rural Industries, Bangladesh Agricultural University | V | V |  |
| 99 | BSMRAU | Prof Safiul Afrad, | Department of Agricultural Extension | V |  |  |
| 100 | BSMRAU | Dr. Md. Abdullah Al Mamun, | Dept. of Agronomy | V |  |  |
| 101 | DU | Professor Dr Nazma Shaheen | Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, Dhaka University | V | V |  |
| 102 | RU | Prof. Md Abdul Alim | Department of Agronomy and Agricultural Extension, University of Rajshahi | V | V | V |
| 103 | RU | Prof. Dr. Yeamin Hossian | Departments of Fisheries, University of Rajshahi | V | V | V |
| 104 | RU | Prof. D. S. M. Sahinul Islam | IBSc, University of Rajshahi | V |  |  |
| 105 | SAU | Prof Dr Mirza Hasanuzzaman, | Department of Agronomy, Faculty of Agriculture, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University |  |  | V |
| 106 | PSTI | Prof Dr AKM Faruk-e-Azam | POTUAKHALI SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE | V |  |  |
| 107 | JATI | Mr Josim Uddin, | JAHURUNNESA AGRICULTURE TRAINING INSTITUTE | V |  |  |
|  | **Public Health and Nutrition** | | |  |  |  |
| 108 | icddrb | Ahshanul Haque |  | V |  | V |
| 109 | icddrb | Dr Muttaquina Hossain |  | V | V |  |
| 110 | icddrb | Fahmida Dil Farzana |  | V | V | V |
| 111 | icddrb | Mr Md Ashraful Alam |  | V |  | V |
| 112 | icddrb | Md. Ahshanul Haque | Nutrition and Clinical Services Division |  |  | V |
| 113 | FPMU | Mr Mostofa Faruque Al Banna | Associate Research Director (FMPU), Ministry of Food | V |  | V |
|  | **Research Organizations** | | |  |  |  |
| 114 | CIMMYT | Mr Washiq Faisal | Research Associate | V | V | V |
|  | **INGOs & NGOs** | | |  |  |  |
| 115 | GAIN | Dr Rudaba Khondker | Country Director, GAIN | V | V |  |
| 116 | GAIN | Dr Monir Bipul |  | V | V | V |

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| **No.** | **Organi­zation** | **Name** | **Designation** | **Char Land 16-Aug- 21** | **Barind Land 17-Aug- 21** | **Coastal Wetland 18-Aug- 21** |
| 117 | GAIN | Mr Ashek Mahfuz |  | V |  | V |
| 118 | Practical Action | Dr Faruk-Ul-Islam |  | V | V |  |
| 119 | Practical Action | Dr Anamul Haque | PL-ISF | V | V |  |
| 120 | Practical Action | Mr Md Zakaria | Agriculture Thematic Lead | V | V |  |
| 121 | Practical Action | Ms Afsari Begum |  |  |  | V |
| 122 | Practical Action | Ms Shawkat A.Begum |  |  |  | V |
| 123 | Solidaridad Network Asia | Mr Md Atikuzzaman |  | V |  |  |
| 124 | Solidaridad Network Asia | Ms. Afroza Sharmin | Programme Officer- Food Supply Chain (Nutritionist) | V |  |  |
| 125 | Solidaridad Network Asia | Prodip Kumar Raptan | Programme Officer- Supply Chain (Agriculturist) | V |  |  |
| 126 | Solidaridad Network Asia | Mohammad Saifullah | Programme Officer- Supply Chain (Agriculturist) | V |  |  |
| 127 | Pumpkin Plus | Nazmul Chowdhury |  |  | V |  |
| 128 | Susilon, Borguna | Mr Md Ismail Hossain |  |  |  | V |
|  | **Private Sector** | | |  |  |  |
| 129 | Golden Harvest, Gazipur | Mr. Ahmed Zilani | QA Incharge | V | V | V |
| 130 | RRDF | Abdullah Al Mamun |  | V |  |  |
| 131 | RRDF | Abdus Sattar |  | V |  |  |
| 132 | PROVA | Dr. Md. Yusuf Ali | Executive Director |  | V |  |
| 133 | DASCOH Foundation | Md. Jahangir Alam Khan |  |  | V |  |
|  | **Media** | | |  |  |  |
| 134 | Dhaka Tribune | Mr Reaz Ahmed | Editor | V | V | V |

**Annex 9. Examples of IFAD country best practices**

HILIP-CALIP

A key feature of the HILIP-CALIP project is the Flash Flood Early Warning System (FFEWS), which helps mitigate the impacts of flash flood events that have at times led to a loss of nearly 80 per cent to 90 per cent of crops. The FFEWS provides farmers with ten-day forecasts, a marked improvement over the three- day warning communicated through family networks. This provides individual farmers as well as market management committees the information necessary to assess the risks posed by flash floods, and affords them enough time to mobilize labour and resources to save the crucial rice harvests. As climate change is projected to increase the frequency, intensity and impacts of extreme weather events, the FFEWS is a timely and appropriate model for replication and upscaling.

Providing timely forecasts is only part of the solution, as infrastructure that allows the mitigation of the worst impacts needs to be built as well. A notably successful solution has been the low-cost innovation known as killas, or raised platforms, which act as artificial islands in a landscape that would otherwise be completely inundated. Farmers have been recorded using the Killa for bringing up crops harvested in response to flood warnings, for threshing and drying and even for evacuating their livestock. This innovation can be replicated and scaled up in other flood-prone areas in Bangladesh. Reforestation with selected vegetative species, such as vetiver grass, also help to mitigate the impacts of floods, acting as a wave barrier while also sequestering carbon.

The project has also had a positive experience in generating new income opportunities in rural areas. Residential hands-on vocational training through different competent NGOs and government organizations on different demand-based farm and non-farm trades have helped youth in rural areas to learn skills including tailoring, manufacturing, welding and masonry. This has shown a significant impact on entrepreneurship development and employment generation, with about 80% getting some form of employment once training is completed. One notable outcome has been the empowerment of rural women through enhanced incomes and employment opportunities.

*https://www.ifad. org/en/web/operations/-/project/1100001585*

(*<https://www.ifad.org/en/web/latest/story/asset/39014792?inheritRedirect=true>*).

CCRIP

The CCRIP project has successfully piloted an innovative approach to empower women by supporting the formation of women market sections (WMS) to mainstream women beneficiaries in trading. Under this initiative, shops are reserved for women traders in the WMS of each market in the project area. Female beneficiaries also worked on the construction of the market infrastructure through the innovative institutional set-up of Labour Contracting Societies, or LCS. The LCS contracts provide wage income and profit to these women, who are then encouraged to use this income as seed capital to start up businesses in the WMS. Women traders also felt more secure working in such designated areas.

CCRIP also demonstrated that field monitoring officers besides regular Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) staff smoothened the implementation of project activities. During early project implementation, the project found that LGED monitoring officers were not able to monitor work adequately as they had to look after multiple government and donor-funded projects. This had a negative impact on the quality of work implementation. As a way to resolve the issue, the project hired field monitoring officers to support the project. This helped maintain the efficiency of procurement, M&E and KM functions, accounting and training of beneficiaries in activities funded by various donors. CCRIP has the potential for scaling up under Climate Financing, possibly with the co-financing of the Global Environment Facility.

*<*<https://www.ifad.org/documents/38714170/41115388/BD> CCRIP IA+brief.pdf/b27dc86b-2563-99cb- 3540-6e81e0596353*)*

<https://www.ifad.Org/en/web/operations/-/project/1100001647>

PACE

Under the PACE project, implemented by Bangladeshi partner PKSF, microfinance institutions used a comprehensive approach of combining financial and non-financial services for microenterprise development by adopting the value chain development methodology. One of the main drivers of this approach was the development of sustainable services by strengthening local commercial service providers. Sector specific policy constraints were identified, analyzed and lobbied with appropriate authorities for introducing pro-poor policies. Two new financial products were also piloted within the project—start-up capital loan and lease financing— to address fund requirement of two different segments of microenterprises. The start-up capital loan provides financial assistance to potential entrepreneurs for starting enterprises while the lease financing targets entrepreneurs that require comparatively larger loans to buy expensive fixed assets, equipment, vehicles, etc. for business purposes. Together, these measures ensured vulnerable target groups could access national microcredit programmes that fit their needs.

The PACE project also commercialized a number of on- and off-farm value chains including environmentally-friendly shoe cluster development, livestock rearing, fish/prawn/shrimp farming and crab fattening to name a few. Such value chain development strategies have potential for further cluster­based development throughout the country. Several of these VC projects have been scaled up by involving the private sector as buyers or input suppliers. The project also has established the country’s first successful crab hatchery for the expansion of export-oriented crab culture sub-sector in the southern coastal areas. Another notable achievement was the collaboration with Grameen Euglena to help train farmers to grow and process export-quality mung beans for the Japanese market. Light and easily provided training helped increase yields by up to 40 per cent, using simple yet effective techniques such as inoculum and the introduction of new varieties developed by the Department of Agricultural Extension.

<https://www.ifad.org/en/web/operations/-/project/1100001648>

CDSP

An example of a good practice successfully implemented in CDSP is the land titling process for landless families living on newly accreted coastal islands (chars) that are vulnerable to climate change. Some of the steps followed at CDSP are innovative; examples include the case hearing being held in the respective char, and Government officers attending these hearings coming from different local offices. Subsequently, the land titles are distributed by these government officers visiting the chars. Most significantly, land titles are given and registered in the names of wife and husband with equal (50%) shares in the land ownership, with the name of wife coming first to protect women in the event of death or divorce. The simple step of writing the woman’s name first in the legal document strengthens her position in the family, gives her uninterrupted access to the land and a legal position in many decision­making processes, and protects her in case of conflicts with her husband. In the event the woman is widowed, divorced or abandoned, she will get 100% ownership of the land. **The Ministry of Land is** internalizing the land titling process of CDSP and adopting it for their land distributing system, potentially scaling up this good practice.

*https://www.ifad. org/en/web/operations/-/project/1100001537*

RMTP

As part of efforts to identify new opportunities for grants mobilization, local partner PKSF has conducted a feasibility study on crowd funding in Bangladesh that recommended launching of a crowding platform for mobilizing grants and loans funds. Bangladeshi families are known as generous donors, helping poor relatives and neighbours, and supporting charitable causes. In this context, PKSF plans to mobilize grants for a number of pilot initiatives through a crowdfunding platform. The credibility of PKSF, as well as of the Financial Institutions Division (FID) of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) will generate the trust necessary to keep the crowdfunding initiative successful, and may be expanded further and lead to the development of new policies. To enable smoother uptake of accounting software by microenterprises (MEs), PKSF is testing mobile-based applications and advising MEs on the appropriate software to use. Finally, PKSF is piloting the use of digital distributed ledgers (blockchain) to support traceability initiatives and to keep track of microfinancing to MEs. The results of the pilot will play a key role in determining the feasibility of scaling up this innovation.

<https://www.ifad.Org/en/web/operations/-/project/2000002356>

SACP

The Ministry of Agriculture, the local implementing partner, put into action the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility devised by IFAD as a response to the negative impacts of COVID-19, with the goal of enhancing nutrition through homestead gardening, by planning for dietary diversity and increasing incomes of poor and vulnerable households, and ensuring availability of nutritious produce in local markets. The objective was achieved through provision of inputs and capacity-building support for year-round production of high-value and nutrient-rich vegetables in homestead gardens in coastal areas. The successful rollout of this facility can be replicated across Bangladesh. Another notable approach adopted by SACP is the concept of Lead Farmers in Farmer Field Schools, a decentralized approach to support and complement work by local extension officers for effective market facilitation, and for dissemination of useful agricultural practices and innovations.

*<https://www.ifad.Org/en/web/operations/-/project/2000001464>*

1. GED, 2018. Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: Bangladesh in the 21st Century. General Economic Division, Bangladesh Planning Commission [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Data update by MoA from Statistics of proposed project districts. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. GED, 2018. Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: Bangladesh in the 21st Century. General Economic Division, Bangladesh Planning Commission [↑](#footnote-ref-4)