

Report on
Workshop on Extension approaches presentations
by extension service providers
Organized by BAEN

A workshop on '**Extension approaches presentation and lesson sharing**' of different extension service providers in Bangladesh was held on 30 March 2017 at AIS conference room, Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Khamarbari, Farmgate, Dhaka, Bangladesh. It was organized by Bangladesh Agricultural Extension Network (BAEN) with the support of Integrated Farm Management Component (IFMC). Core objective of the workshop is to find out the best extension approaches practiced by different extension service providers. Total 50 participants from different extension service providers attended in this workshop. Dr. Abu Wali Raghieb Hassan, Project Director and Henrik Stroeh, Senior Adviser attended from IFMC. Md. Monzurul Hannan, Director General of DAE lighted the chair as chief guest and Chaitanya Kumar Das, Director Field Service was special guest. The workshop was presided over by the chairman of BEAN Md. Hamidur Rahman. Eight extension service provider/organization/projects presented their extension approaches and good practices. The organization or projects were CCDB Dhaka, CDB, CRAFSP, Green Bangla Foundation, Solidaridad, CREL, BARD, IPM project. Summary of presentations of these 8 organization/ projects are briefly described below.



CCDB

Samiron Biswas, Coordinator from Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB) presented about CCDB Agriculture and seed promotion programme. He elaborated their major extension methodology and activities, adaptation to climate change, good practices, extension opportunities etc, This project is expanding zinc enriched rice varieties specially the variety 'BRRI Dhan-74' and the project established 2200 demonstration in Bore reason. Farmers produced seeds, branded and sale (5 model groups are now working). Family approach training, school campaign, nutrition emphasized programme, dealing with the farmers for long period, capital or fund generated by farmers themselves are some good practices and approaches of CCDB. These are the basic specialties and differences with usual extension approach.

CDB

Dr. Fakhre Alam Ibne Tabib, Deputy Director, Cotton Development Board, presented on extension methodology of cotton cultivation expansion through method and block demonstration giving more emphasis on saline tolerant variety expansion and cotton cultivation in hill areas, as mixed cropping with rice charland and drought areas. Demonstration, participatory research, on farm trial, field day, farmer rally are some extension approaches of CDB.

CRAFSP

Dr. M. G. Neogi, Knowledge management and communication specialist of Climate Resilient Agriculture and food security project (CRAFS) presented the extension approach and activities of the project. Objectives of the project is to improve climate risk management, capacity building of agribusiness companies, farmers and agricultural supply chain members, piloting of innovative practices and technologies. Expected to reach 75,000 Farmers of which 7,500 are women (10%). Project locations are in different polders of coastal areas. The project has been developing capacity of two seed companies like ACI Ltd. and Supreme seed company, doing exchange visit, farmers meeting and training, demonstrations etc.. Meanwhile the project identified and developed 12 climate smart agricultural technologies for crop production in coastal area, published desk calendar with climate smart agricultural messages, developed video training materials on bed planting, floating garden, pyramid bed etc, also the project published 10,000 booklets in Bengali on homestead gardening. The basic extension approaches followed by the project is training and demonstration, linkage development between farmers and input suppliers.

Green Bangla Foundation

Md. Kamruzzaman Mridha, Chairman of Green Bangla Foundation presented the programmers/projects like Green Chashi School, Green Business, Green Agro development programme, Green women entrepreneurs development programme and Value chain development programme, The core extension approach is the green farmers school. Others are using folk media, video, school debate, field day, demonstration, awarding the farmers e-agriculture, seminar, workshop etc, The good practices followed as organic and eco-friendly agriculture production technologies, establishment of bio gas plant, project is dealing with 22,50,000 farmers within 5 years.

Solidaridad

Md. Mojibul Hoque, Supply chain and market linkage expert from Solidaridad Network Asia presented on SAFAL project. Solidaridad have been working in 56 countries in the world for developing supply chain of agricultural commodities, SAFAL project in Bangladesh funded by Netherland government, Their extension approach implemented

thought development of production portfolio assessment of input demand and linkage, supply chain development. Bangladesh market is at present in transformation phase. The project has been working from production to export chain. Project deals with 1000 producer groups having 60,000 farmer among which 17,000 are dairy farmers, they have same lead farmers as extension and capacity development agent, developing rural SME, contact farming, development of infrastructure and other logistic facilities as hub (a rural market have 86000 sq.ft area in a village) & micro-centers market promotion in national and EU market.

CREL

CREL project: Md. Abdul Hossain (Sabuj), Value chain specialist of Climate Resilliant & Environment Livelyhood (CREL) project funded by USAID presented on some value chains developed by the project on both & off farm activities. On farm value chains are on vegetable, fruit, capsicum, strawberry, white fish, poultry. Off farm value chains are handicraft, eco tourism, non farm trade like mobile servicing, employment generation such as vaccination etc. The project also conducted basic literacy training, developed local service providers, CSA (Climate smart Agriculture messaging) demonstration etc..

BARD

Md. Shafiqul Islam from BARD (Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development) presented on BARD activities. Good practices in extension of BARD are Comprehensive Village Development Programme (CVDP), Ecological sanitation (eco-toilet), Adoption and extension of low cost paddy thresher project etc. Major extension methodologies are development of comprehensive village development cooperative society, monthly meeting, training, research, demonstration etc.. BARD developed a model small farm of dairy farm (5-6 cattle) Integrated Agricultural farming in Lalmai which can be scaling up.

IPM project

Md. Shafiuzzaman, IPM specialist from Safe crop production through IPM practices project presented on extension approaches and activities implemented by the project. Extension approaches are Farmer Field School and demonstration has been establishing 6,700 FFS throughout the country. Except this pest management programme is being implemented. Group approach and hands on training is the basic extension methodology of this project. Technologies practiced by the project for safe crop production are biological pest management, use of the tolerant varieties, modern cultivation practices, use of sex pheromone and light trap, crop sanitation, bagging, perching, AESA, judicious use of pesticides etc.

Dr. Monwar Hossain gave his concluding comments on all the presentations.