

Inputs of BARC for the 3rd Joint Trade Committee (JTC) between Bangladesh and Vietnam

Bangladesh agriculture requires scientific and technological cooperation; and demands considerable improvement in the effectiveness of the public expenditure in research and extension systems. Our development partner can also take a step to work on bilateral cooperation associated with collaboration in agriculture including ICT, energy, power, manufacturing trade and environment, etc. For sustainable development of agriculture in Bangladesh the following areas may be considered for the 3rd Joint Trade Committee (JTC) between Bangladesh and Vietnam.

1. Strengthening of Research and Development

- ✦ Hybrid technology for rice and other crops;
- ✦ Agricultural mechanization;
- ✦ Use of ICT in agriculture;
- ✦ Good Agricultural practices (GAP) for safe food production and increase export;
- ✦ Soil nutrient mapping, GIS and weather forecasting;
- ✦ Efficient irrigation system through surface water and rainwater harvesting;
- ✦ Technologies for agro based product development.

2. Collaborative Research on Climate Resilient Technology

- ✦ Climate resilient crop variety development (tolerance to salinity, drought, heat, submergence) and adaptation of new crops and technologies;
- ✦ Common strategies and collaborative approaches may be initiated to overcome the multiple threats of climate change.

3. Disaster Management and Mitigation in Agriculture

- ✦ Appropriate technologies for environmental disaster like tidal flood and storm, Tornado, flash flood etc. which causes huge losses of crop production;
- ✦ Bangladesh needs collaborative support to protect crop land by development of dam, embankment, sluice gate, land reclamation from saline after natural disaster.

4. Solar Energy in Agriculture

- ✦ Development of efficient solar energy management system for agricultural uses including irrigation, drying, storage, handling of mini equipment, etc.

5. Agricultural Mechanization

- ✦ Strengthening of research and development of agricultural farm machineries.

6. Modernization of Agricultural Marketing and Supply Chain Development

- ✦ Development of efficient strategy of agricultural market system, supply chain development, trade- investment and services;
- ✦ Support to infrastructure development for efficient market management.

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7. Postharvest management

- ✦ Exchange of technical know-how and experience on agro-processing, postharvest management, handling and processing to reduce postharvest losses of grain, vegetables and fruits;
- ✦ Development of the small scale agro-processing industries in the production area and value addition of major produces;
- ✦ Support to technical knowledge for national level food safety and quality standards.

8. Sharing of Knowledge and Experiences

- ✦ Arrangement of mutual visits of scientists, policymakers, extension workers, seed producers, traders, growers for sharing updated knowledge and technologies.

9. Capacity Building

- ✦ Institutional capacity building for developing accredited laboratories, biotechnological research and policy development on risk assessment, bio-safety and bio-security.

10. GIS Based Crop Estimation and Forecasting

- ✦ Establishment of GIS-based crop estimation and forecasting systems in agriculture is needed to infer production as well as to protect farmers from unusual price fluctuation etc. On the other hand, it will be very helpful for the government in import and export related decision making.

11. Export Processing Zone for Agriculture

- ✦ Technical support for establishing agro-export and processing zones, along with better vertical linkages between farmers and buyers (such as contract farming and vertical integration), which can help overcome some of the risks inherent in marketing of high value agricultural products.


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