

Proceedings From The Grand Inauguration Of The Project

24 November 2021 | Dhaka, Bangladesh



Consortium For Scaling-Up Climate-Smart Agriculture In South Asia (C-SUCSeS)

Prepared by: Barun Deb Pal, Razin Iqbal Kabir, Mamata Pradhan and Kinzang Gyeltshen



Afghanistan



Bangladesh



Bhutan



India



Maldives



Nepal



Pakistan



Sri Lanka



SAARC Agriculture Centre



INTERNATIONAL
FOOD POLICY
RESEARCH
INSTITUTE



SAARC Development Fund



Investing in rural people

Copyright © 2022 International Food Policy Research Institute. All rights reserved.

For permission to reproduce, contact ifpri-copyright@cgiar.org.

Cover photo: Panos Pictures / G.M.B Akash

Suggested citation: Pal, B. D., R. I. Kabir, M. Pradhan and K. Gyeltshen. 2022. *Proceedings from the Grand Inauguration of the Project Consortium for Scaling-Up Climate-Smart Agriculture in South Asia (C-SUCSeS)*. New Delhi, India: International Food Policy Research Institute – South Asia Regional Office.

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) - South Asia Regional Office

NASC Complex, CG Block, Dev Prakash Shastri Road,

Pusa, New Delhi - 110012, India.

Phone: +91 11 42244545

<https://southasia.ifpri.info/>

Acknowledgement

This work was undertaken in collaboration with the SAARC Agricultural Centre (SAC) and has been prepared as an output of the project 'Consortium for Scaling-Up Climate-Smart Agriculture in South Asia (C-SUCSeS)'. Funding for this project has been provided by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The planning and launch of this project would have been impossible without the invaluable guidance received from Dr. Shahidur Rashid, Director, IFPRI-SAR and Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain, Director, SAC. We are also thankful to Md. Robyul Islam and Md. Shazahan Islam from the SAC Project Coordination Unit (SAC-PCU) for their tireless efforts and support in the successful organization of this launch event. Much appreciation also goes out to Rebika Laishram and Anisha Mohan of the IFPRI-SAR Communications team for developing the launch-related creatives and for managing all the regional media and PR outreach for the event.

This output has not been independently peer reviewed. Any opinions expressed here are not necessarily representative of or endorsed by IFPRI or the supporting organizations of the conference.



Proceedings From The Grand Inauguration Of The Project

Consortium For Scaling-Up Climate-Smart Agriculture In South Asia (C-SUCSeS)

Prepared by:

Barun Deb Pal, Razin Iqbal Kabir, Mamata Pradhan and Kinzang Gyeltshen



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
Acronyms and Abbreviations	3
About the Organizers	4
Background	4
Purpose of the launch workshop	5
The event	5
Historical evolution of C-SUCSeS	7
Project Brief	7
Key messages from the workshop	09
Annex 1	11
Annex 2	13
Virtual	13
In-person	14
Press	17

Executive Summary

Driven by the need to produce more food for an ever-increasing population that is further marred with declining and degrading natural resource base, adapting to and mitigating climate change have posed a big challenge. It is an established fact that in agriculture, fertilizers, flooded rice cultivation, energy use in irrigation, tillage, and enteric emissions from ruminant animals are the main contributors of greenhouse gases, which accounts to about one-fourth of the total emissions. The evolution of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) emerged as a scientific response to this multi-headed hydra, which helps achieve higher production with reduced emission. The fact remains that the small farm holders of South Asia, who are already facing several non-climatic stresses, have limited capacity to adopt new technologies. There are a host of barriers in the form of limited access to natural resources, information, finance, and above all, low human capital that limit the adoption of technology. The global community is aware of these climate change challenges and has initiated programs to overcome these challenges across the world. In this context, and to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, there is a need for evidence-based research that have the potential to bring about transformative change in agriculture and food systems.

Although several agricultural policies were implemented across South Asian countries in the past, these were still unable to directly address climate

strategic investment plans, the vision could not be translated into action. It is also established that the current development plans fail to integrate sectoral investment budget with the projected climate change impacts and the economic performance. Also, the available investment plans do not incorporate progressive climate risks and its possible impacts on entire agri-food system, including production and consumption.

Further, the existing challenges are being tackled locally through nationally supported experimentation of technologies and practices, such as timely sowing, drought-resistant varieties, multi-purpose varieties for food, feed, and green manure, soil and water conservation, soil fertility management, pest control, disease control for livestock, and storage, etc. While further development of these technologies and practices is warranted, there is also an urgent need to scout and catalyze existing efforts and scale-up proven successes. Major efforts need to be undertaken to match existing technologies with farmers' needs, market opportunities, and environmental concerns. A thorough mapping at regional level of climate change effects, identification of agro-ecosystems with similar characteristics, and cross-dissemination of viable technologies and practices will help accelerate impacts and outreach of current national research efforts. Currently, cross border cooperation between National Agricultural Research and Extension Systems (NARES) in South Asia remains constrained by lack of capacity, and in some instances, by political tensions, precluding access to opportunities.



change adaptation and mitigation issues. On the other hand, many countries in South Asia have already prepared their respective National Adaptation Plans for Action (NAPA), and long-term vision documents for overall economic and agriculture development. However, in the absence of evidence-based

The recently completed SAARC-IFAD Scoping Study (2016) provides a regional-level analysis of the progress and gaps at national-level in pursuit of the sustainable intensification agenda, noticing the potential for the CSA approach. With support from SAARC Agricultural Centre (SAC), the study has

brought together focal persons from the NARES of South Asia to identify areas for regional cooperation. Subsequently, the third Meeting of the SAARC Ministers of Agriculture in April 2016 endorsed the SAARC-IFAD scoping study and urged for a broader engagement between SAARC and IFAD on regional agricultural program. Further, the SAARC-CGIAR roundtable meeting (August 2017) on Agricultural Research for Development (AR4D) in South Asia identified climate change adaptation as one of the high priority areas. This has led to the creation of a SAC-IFPRI consortium to promote CSA in South Asia by catalyzing NARES' national programs through regional cooperation and knowledge sharing and accelerate the scaling-up of innovative technological solutions and best practices through national programs and policies.

In response to the call from the SAARC heads of state, in January 2019, IFAD approved a USD\$1.5 million grant to support the launch of the Consortium for Scaling up Climate Smart Agriculture in South Asia (C-SUCSeS), an initiative led by the SAC and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) that will leverage research in climate smart agriculture carried out by NARES of the SAARC Member States (SMS). The C-SUCSeS program benefits from a US\$ 1.6 million co-financing from SAC, IFPRI, and SDF. SDF grant is to ensure an early horizontal extension of the C-SUCSeS initiative to Afghanistan, Bhutan, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka where research on CSA is expected to benefit from cooperation from the relevant NARES of other member states and the CGIAR's research programs.

The overall goal of the project is to promote sustainable and resilient agricultural intensification in South Asia through enhanced capacity (policy, institution, skills) to scale-up climate smart strategies and technologies. The specific objectives include: (1) accelerating the identification of and scaling-up of viable CSA interventions through national policies and programs in South Asia; (2) setting-up effective and efficient mechanisms for knowledge sharing, policy dialogue, and cooperation in R&D programs among SAARC countries on CSA. The implementation of this project involves four key activities: (1) Scaling-up technically viable and gender-sensitive CSA technologies for smallholders in selected farming systems; (2) Policy analysis/advocacy and institutional development; and (3) Knowledge management and capacity building; and (4) Project management.

Successful implementation of this project within the grant time frame between 2021 and 2025 is expected to achieve the following outcomes by the end of the project: (i) best CSA technologies and practices suitable for smallholders, particularly for identified women farmers, and scaled up in project countries; (ii) CSA policies and strategies mainstreamed in national agricultural development strategies with appropriate institutional arrangement for effective implementation; (iii) enhanced capacities of national staff (policy, research and extension system) and smallholder farmers (with special focus on women farmers) on CSA technologies and sustainable and resilient agricultural intensification; and (iv) enhanced SAC-led regional cooperation program on CSA in the SAARC region.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIP	Agriculture Innovation Program for Pakistan
ARD	Agriculture and Rural Development
BARC	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
CA	Climate Adaptation
CGIAR	Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research
CIMMYT	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
C-SUCSeS	Consortium for Scaling-up Climate Smart Agriculture in South Asia
DSR	Direct Seeded Rice
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
ICAR	Indian Council for Agricultural Research
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Bangladesh
MP	Member of Parliament
NARES	National Agricultural Research and Extension Systems
PARC	Pakistan Agricultural Research Council
PIM	Programme Implementation Manual
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RWC	Rice-Wheat Consortium
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAC	SAARC Agriculture Centre
SDF	SAARC Development Fund
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SMS	SAARC Member States
US\$	United States Dollars

About the Organizers

About IFAD

IFAD invests in rural people, empowering them to reduce poverty, increase food security, improve nutrition and strengthen resilience. Since 1978, we have provided US\$23.2 billion in grants and low-interest loans to projects that have reached an estimated 518 million people. IFAD is an international financial institution and a United Nations specialized agency based in Rome – the United Nations food and agriculture hub.

About SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)

SAC is the first Regional Centre established in 1988 by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) with a mandate to promote agricultural research and development as well as technology dissemination initiatives for sustainable agricultural development and poverty alleviation in the region. SAC has the responsibility to promote and support regional cooperation among SAARC member states in fostering sustainable and resilient agricultural adaptation in South Asia. It is governed and supported directly by the Member States under the umbrella of SAARC.

About International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

IFPRI provides research-based policy solutions to sustainably reduce poverty and end hunger and malnutrition in developing countries. IFPRI was established in 1975 to identify and analyze alternative national and international strategies and policies for meeting the food needs of the developing world, with particular emphasis on low-income countries and on the poorer groups in those countries. It is a research center of CGIAR, a worldwide partnership engaged in agricultural research for development.

About SAARC Development Fund (SDF)

SAARC Development Fund (SDF) was established in April 2010 as a regional financial institution for all SAARC projects and programs. SDF's Mandate is to promote regional integration and economic cooperation. In the last eleven years, SDF has embarked on projects, forged new partnerships, and initiated numerous interventions to enable SDF to become a more robust umbrella-funding institution, amply capable of delivering the benefits of regional engagement to the millions in the region through project-based collaboration. SDF operates through the three financing windows: Social, Economic and Infrastructure. SDF has about 100 projects approved by the SDF Board under the three funding windows with a fund commitment/allocation of over US\$ 165 million. SDF has an authorized capital of US\$ 1.5 billion and a capital base of over US\$ 560 million.

Background

South Asia is one of the world's most vulnerable regions in terms of climate change impacts. The region is still predominantly an agrarian society, with much of the population dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods, but the sector is at high risk from climate change. Agricultural production is severely constrained by extreme climate events whose frequency has increased in the past few decades. Estimates show that South Asia could lose between 10 and 50 percent of crop production by the end of the century due to global warming. Moreover, South Asia is still home to more than a quarter of the world's hungry and undernourished population. The region will likely need to double its food production to feed a population of up to 2.68 billion people by 2050.

Climate change has thus emerged as a major challenge to farming systems' ability to respond to the increasing demand for food in a sustainable way. Consequently, sustainable intensification of agriculture and climate change adaptation have become inextricably linked agendas. For South Asia, a paradigm shift is required in the design of agricultural programs and interventions that is coupled with enhanced resilience and greater efficiency in natural resource use at the farm-level, prioritizing farming systems that are most vulnerable to climate change and exposed to natural resource degradation. To accomplish this goal of sustainable and resilient agriculture, adoption and scaling up of climate smart agriculture is necessary for the South Asia region.

Climate-Smart Agriculture is an integrative approach to address the interlinked challenges of food security and climate change. The three objectives of the CSA approach include: (i) sustainably increasing agricultural productivity to support equitable increase in farm incomes, food security and development; (ii) adapting and building resilience of agricultural and food security systems to climate change; (iii) and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture. What

distinguishes CSA from other approaches is its explicit consideration of climatic risks that are emerging more rapidly and with greater intensity today than in the past, coupled with emphasis on addressing adaptation and mitigation challenges to increase agricultural productivity and sustainability.

Further, the existing challenges are being tackled locally through nationally supported experimentation of technologies and practices, such as timely sowing, drought-resistant varieties, multi-purpose varieties for food, feed, and green manure, soil and water conservation, soil fertility management, pest control, disease control for livestock, and storage, etc. While further development of these technologies and practices is warranted, there is also an urgent need to scout and catalyze existing efforts and scale-up proven successes. Major efforts need to be undertaken to match existing technologies with farmers'

needs, market opportunities, and environmental concerns. A thorough mapping at the regional-level of climate change effects, identification of agro-ecosystems with similar characteristics, and cross-dissemination of viable technologies and practices will help accelerate impacts and outreach of current national research efforts. Currently, cross border cooperation between NARES in South Asia remains constrained by lack of capacity, and in some instances, by political tensions, precluding access to opportunities.

As a result, SAARC heads sought to form the C-SUCSeS: Consortium for Scaling-Up Climate Smart Agriculture in South Asia. This consortium aims to foster partnership and cooperation between C-SUCSeS partners, other CGIAR Centers, and SAARC governments around the CSA agenda. In response, IFAD approved a US\$1.5 million grant support toward the launch of this consortium. Apart from IFAD's grant, the C-SUCSeS program benefits from a US\$ 1.6 million co-financing from SAC, IFPRI, and SDF.

Purpose of the launch workshop

After completing all the administrative formalities from the SAARC member countries, the project was officially launched on 24 November 2021 through a launch workshop in Dhaka, Bangladesh. This project was formally launched by opening of C-SUCSeS Project Plaque jointly by Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain, Director, SAARC Agriculture Centre, Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin Talukder, Additional Secretary (PPC), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, and Mr. Md. Shamsul Haque, Additional Secretary, SAARC & BIMSTEC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. This launch event was attended by representatives from SAARC member states, key officials from SAARC secretariat, SAC, SDF and BIMSTEC. Additionally, key officials from IFAD, IFPRI and other international and national research organizations also participated in the project launch workshop. The purpose of this workshop was to introduce the C-SUCSeS project among the stakeholders, including national and regional policy makers, research organizations, government officials, donor organizations and the global academia.

The event

The launch workshop started with a welcome address by Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain Director, SAARC Agriculture Centre followed by opening remarks by Mr. Abdelkarim Sma, Lead Regional Economist, Asia and Pacific Region, IFAD, Rome, Italy; Mr. Anuj Goel, Officer-in-Charge, SAARC Development Fund, Bhutan; and Dr. Shahidur Rashid, Director for South Asia, IFPRI, New Delhi, India.

In his welcome address, Dr. Hossain gave an overview about the evolution of this consortium and appreciated the effort made by the partner organizations and SAARC member states to develop this project and its implementation manual. According to him, the successful implementation of this project will be in achieving its intended objectives and encouraged IFAD and partners to invest much more in the region where majority of the population is still dependent on agriculture. He stressed that collective actions through implementation of climate-smart projects that are backed by effective policies and strategies would make a difference to the millions of farmers who are dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods in the region. Moreover, with the implementation of such project, regional cooperation in agriculture will be enhanced that will ultimately contribute to achieving the shared goals and vision of SAARC.



Mr. Abdelkarim joined Dr. Hossain in congratulating the project team and consortium partner organization for successful design of this project. In his opening remarks, he emphasized the necessity of scaling up climate-smart agriculture as the key to track the agriculture and rural economies on a resilient path – a path which would achieve the nationally determined contributions, carbon neutrality, and contribute to limiting the adverse impact of climate change in

future. In his opinion, IFAD has a large investment program in South Asia and this consortium would help mainstream that investment. The consortium is also trying to set up a platform for knowledge sharing among all these countries, and a platform for policy formulation and policy engagement. Thus, this project would allow all of us to make sure that we are really putting those rural economies on a climate-resilient pathway in the future. He also asserted that this consortium would strengthen collaboration between IFAD, SAC, SDF, and IFPRI to develop a scientific evidence-based climate smart strategic document for South Asia for the coming years

In his opening remarks, Mr. Anuj Goel mentioned that the SAARC Development Fund had granted approval for SDF funding at its 31st board meeting in August 2019 at Colombo, Sri Lanka. With this financial commitment, SDF ensured partnership with all the esteemed agencies to promote sustainable and resilient agriculture intensification in the SAARC member states through

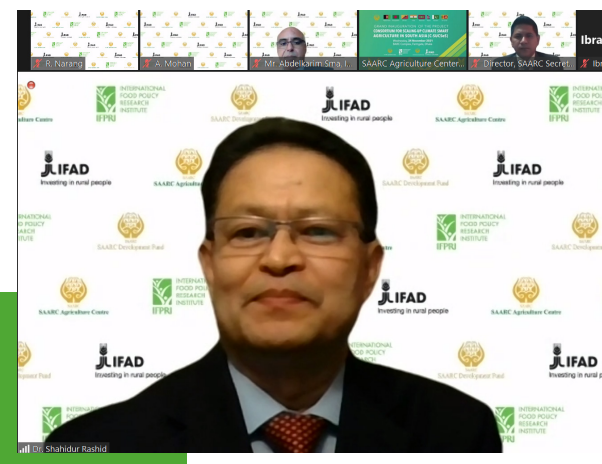


enhanced climate-smart agriculture capacities and technologies. According to him, SDF will look forward to such collaboration with the national and international organizations to create and consolidate each other's efforts and resources to see the results at scale. Since, climate change impacts are felt across South Asia, Mr. Goel believes that these collective efforts will augment the continuous efforts of all the member states towards enhancing the adaptive capacity of the farming community, particularly the small farm holders, toward climate change impacts. He also emphasized that the SDF is committed to supporting efforts of the member countries in funding such as through cross-border regional projects, and in fulfilment of their mandate. According to him, this is a critical process by which SAARC member states become interconnected regionally and contribute toward promoting the wellbeing of the people in the region. SDF is committed towards utilizing its resources effectively, and where it is most needed, to promote the welfare of the people of the SAARC region.



Dr. Shahidur Rashid endorsed the views expressed by the speakers of the consortium partner organization regarding the importance of this consortium and its goal. Dr. Rashid touched upon two important issues related to this consortium – first, the role of IFPRI in this consortium, and secondly, the expectations from this consortium. According to him, IFPRI's role in this partnership goes beyond the financial contribution committed by the IFPRI management. As he explained, IFPRI is an international organization with a mandate to deliver global public goods. But it sees value in delivering on its ultimate objective and mandate, which is to ensure food and nutrition security in a sustainable manner for the future generation. IFPRI ranks number one in international agricultural policy research globally. IFPRI also ranks number one in terms of agricultural economics and policy research across agricultural economics departments in top academic universities around the world. In just development economics, per se, IFPRI ranks number five in the world.

IFPRI's network include global centers of excellence, who can bring state of the art training, science, and technology to the partnership that can benefit member countries, as well as contribute to the mandates of SAARC, IFAD, and other partners.



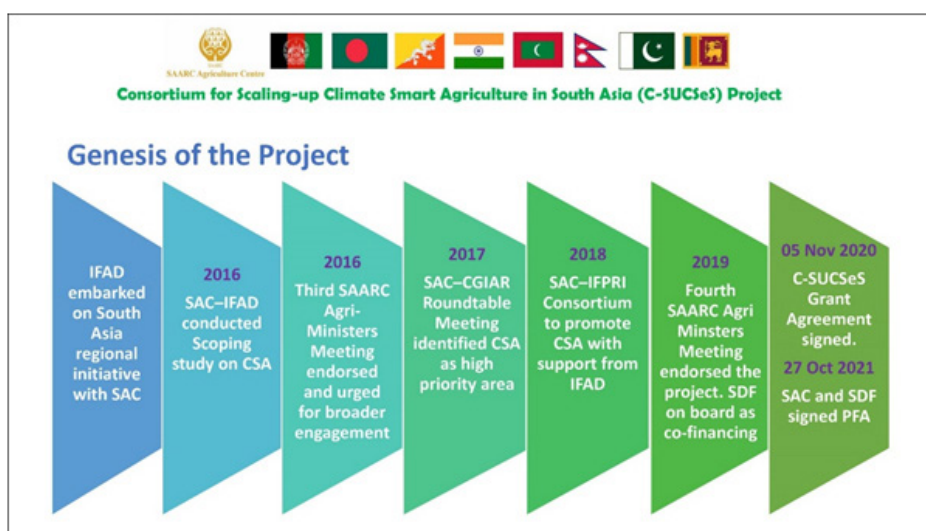
Following these opening remarks by the leaders of consortium partner organizations, Mr. Kinzang Gyeltshen, Project Coordinator, C-SUCSeS Project, SAARC Agriculture Centre presented detailed process of evolution of this consortium, the project objectives and the expected outcome, which are elaborated in the subsequent sections

Historical evolution of C-SUCSeS

The recently completed SAARC-IFAD Scoping study (2016) provides a regional-level analysis of the progress and gaps at the national-level in pursuit of the sustainable intensification agenda, noticing the potential for the CSA approach. With SAC's support, the study brought together focal persons from the NARES of South Asia to identify areas for regional cooperation. Subsequently the third meeting of the SAARC Ministers of Agriculture in April 2016 endorsed the SAARC-IFAD scoping study and urged for a broader engagement between SAARC and IFAD on regional agricultural program. Further, the SAARC-CGIAR roundtable meeting (August 2017) on AR4D in South Asia identified climate change adaptation as one of the high priority areas. This has led to the creation of a SAC-IFPRI consortium to promote CSA in South Asia by catalyzing NARES' national programs through regional cooperation and knowledge sharing and accelerate the scaling-up of innovative technological solutions and best practices through national programs and policies. SAC would focus on supporting policy dialogue, knowledge sharing, and cooperation among NARES, while IFPRI would facilitate access to global technological and policy solutions in collaboration with the CGIAR institutions.

The proposed project, thus, builds on these developments to foster partnership and cooperation between SAARC, NARES, IFPRI and other CGIAR centers, and SAARC governments on the CSA agenda. It is intended to support: (i) agricultural research's role to generate and facilitate delivery of technological solutions to smallholders, with a specific priority on the intensification and resilience of smallholder agriculture, contributing inter alia to increasing water management efficiency (both Priority Areas under the 2018 Grant Program Guidance Memo); and (ii) IFAD's 2015 Grant Policy objectives of promoting innovative, pro-poor approaches and technologies with demonstrated scaling-up potential; strengthen partners' institutional and policy capacities; enhance policy engagement; and generate and share knowledge.

Building on this, IFAD developed and approved the Consortium for Scaling Up Climate Smart Agriculture in South Asia – C-SUCSeS – grant to SAC, with co-financing from the SDF, SAC, IFPRI, and the NARES – totaling over US\$3 million. The project will foster partnership and cooperation between C-SUCSeS partners, other CGIAR Centers, and SAARC governments around the CSA agenda.



Project Brief

Project Goal and Objectives

Over the four-year (2021–2024) implementation period, the overarching goal of the C-SUCSeS project is to promote sustainable and resilient agricultural intensification in South Asia through enhanced capacity (policy, institution, skills) to scale up climate-smart strategies and technologies.

The specific objectives include:

- Accelerating the identification of and scaling-up of viable CSA interventions through national policies and programs in South Asia.
- Setting up effective and efficient mechanisms for knowledge-sharing, policy dialogue, and cooperation in R&D programs on CSA among SAARC countries.

Targeted Beneficiaries

The grant activities will directly target 7,500 smallholders, as well as researchers, extension workers, and policymakers in SAARC countries. Of the 7,500 beneficiaries, 1,500 farmers will participate in validation of CSA technologies and practices, and 6,000 farmers will benefit from training, exposure visits, and other knowledge events. Beneficiaries' distribution across farming systems and target countries will be defined in consultation with NARES.

About 50,000 smallholders will indirectly benefit from scaling-up activities and implementation of scaling-up strategies developed under the grant. NARES and relevant government technical agencies will broadly benefit from the project in terms of improved institutional capacity and program development.

Expected Outcomes and Outputs

The project expects to achieve the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: Best CSA technologies and practices suitable for smallholders, particularly women farmers, identified and scaled-up in project countries.

- Output 1.1: A report with an inventory of CSA technologies and practices.
- Output 1.2: A paper and a policy brief based on the participatory research on CSA technologies.
- Output 1.3: Papers and policy briefs based on benefit-cost analysis of CSA technologies.
- Output 1.4: A set of national strategies for project countries for the scaling-up of CSA technologies.

Outcome 2: CSA policies and strategies mainstreamed in national agricultural development strategies with appropriate institutional arrangements.

- Output 2.1: Policy papers outlining policy and institutional constraints to the adoption of the selected CSA technologies.
- Output 2.2: A strategy paper on how to promote regional cooperation for promotion of CSA.
- Output 2.3: One policy roundtable and one high-level policy forum on CSA.

Outcome 3: Enhanced capacities of national staff and smallholder farmers on CSA technologies and sustainable and resilient agricultural intensification.

- Output 3.1: A well-functioning community of practice on climate-smart agriculture.
- Output 3.2: Training materials developed on CSA technologies and practices.
- Output 3.3: Enhanced knowledge and learning of stakeholders on CSA technologies.
- Output 3.4: Innovative knowledge-sharing approaches developed and pilot tested.

Outcome 4: Enhanced SAC-led regional cooperation program on CSA in the SAARC region.

- Output 4.1: A well-functioning Project Coordination Unit (PCU) set up and trained at SAC.
- Output 4.2: Timely preparation and submission of progress reports and coordination of project activities.



Key messages from the workshop

Distinguished officials from the SAARC member states also participated and shared their views on the C-SUCSeS project. Mr. Ibrahim Shabau, Director General, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture, Maldives; Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali, Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), Pakistan; Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin Talukder, Additional Secretary (PPC) Ministry of Agriculture Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; Mr. Md. Shamsul Haque, Additional Secretary, SAARC & BIMSTEC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; and His Excellency Esala Ruwan Weerakoon, Secretary General of SAARC, SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu, Nepal attended the launch workshop and shared their views on how this project can aid regional cooperation and overcome the global challenges of climate change and agriculture.

In his remarks, Mr. Ibrahim Shabau acknowledged that the climate-smart agriculture is an integrative approach that can address the interlinked challenges of food security and climate change in South Asia. He mentioned that with the strong directives of SAARC Summits on climate change adaptation in agricultural systems, all national agricultural research and extension services in SAARC member states are striving hard to adapt to climate change impact through climate-smart agricultural research and development in respective countries. According to him, it is important to create a regional platform to share climate-smart technologies among member states. He added that through this project, the proven and best control technologies will be identified, and the most viable and smallholder-friendly technologies will be scaled-up to protect and help farmers in this region to adapt to the effects of climate change. He reiterated that focused adaptation strategies such as climate-smart agriculture, integrated with renewable energy, would probably be the way forward. CSA technologies are already being piloted in different regions of member states, the Maldives being one of them. Some of these include direct-seeded rice (DSR), zero tillage farming, solar pumps, and planting of saline-tolerant varieties. This mutual collaboration will not only accelerate the adoption of climate-smart agriculture, but it will also help to increase farmers' incomes. Improving food security and building resilient farming communities in the region are key to wider adoption of CSA. In his concluding remarks, he emphasized that regional cooperation among the national focal points of the SAARC member states will be key to successful implementation of this project. Nevertheless, the project will be effectively and efficiently implemented to achieve its intended objectives and urged IFAD and partners to invest more in the second phase of the project. He asserted that collective actions achieved through the implementation of such project activities, coupled with effective climate-smart agriculture policies and strategies, will make a difference to the millions of farmers who are dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods in the region.



Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali stated that in South Asia, the development of agricultural technologies started with the introduction of zero tillage, and Pakistan was also involved in this activity. The introduction of no till systems during the mid-90s to grow timely wheat in the Rice-Wheat system was a successful



experience. The Climate Change Adaptation program was later facilitated by the strong balance of the Rice-Wheat Consortium (RWC). Facilitated by the World Bank and convened by the CGIAR centers, it led to a steady rise in conservation agriculture (CA)-based resource conserving technologies in India and Pakistan. The success of the Rice-Wheat Consortium was on account of regional collaboration, lessons learned regionally, information sharing and capacity development of the stakeholders. He also added that the SAARC countries have made efforts in the development of CA technologies for rice-wheat and rainfed wheat systems and disseminated on a smaller scale. But their adoption has somehow been slow. Therefore, dissemination or extension of new CA based technologies is needed and would require innovative extension machineries that devise a mechanism and partnerships. Therefore, he urged member countries to jointly participate in the project activities and help identify agricultural technologies that are suitable for the ecology and have potential for upscaling. The upscaling of the technologies can be accelerated through sharing knowledge and capacity building of

national partners. He believes that the project will help the capacity building of all stakeholders and developing farmer-friendly and environmental-friendly national and regional policies that will be instrumental in improving agricultural productivity in the region. Dr. Ali concluded by lauding the support of IFAD, IFPRI, SAC and SAARC member countries in the development of the project and emphasized that the efforts of all stakeholders, and especially the SAARC member countries, would help promote sustainable and resilient agriculture intensification in South Asia.

Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin Talukder shared his concern about Bangladesh, an agrarian economy that is working toward enhancing quality food production to sustain the nutritional security of its population, despite pressures of reducing arable land. The entire agriculture production process in this country is affected due to



frequent droughts, flash floods, unprecedented emergence of weeds, harmful pests and insects, undesirable microbes, and anomalous micro-climatic pattern in the individual agro-ecological setting of the region. Farmers are rendered helpless in fighting these undesirable, unexpected problems. The government of Bangladesh has taken several measures for vertical expansion of agriculture by improving the total factor productivity, resulting in more production from less area. However, this led to comparatively higher operational costs of cultivation. In this context, he felt that the framework of the SAC's C-SUCSeS project would call for regional interventions to help the technocrats, scientists, and the extension workers of the member countries of the South Asia region. The compilation of climate-smart technologies in an easily retrievable format with proper agro-advisory mechanisms is going to help the knowledge-deprived farming communities in the South Asia. Dr. Talukdar opined that Bangladesh will also be benefitted from this project in the long run. According to him, most of the agrarian practices are with net-zero emissions and often carbon-friendly which can earn carbon

credits too. There are many robust carbon-smart agricultural technologies which were privy to the normal thought process of the farmer. He urged member countries to use the C-SUCSeS platform to overcome the challenges in the dissemination process of climate-friendly agricultural technologies. He concluded his remarks by assuring the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Bangladesh (GoB)'s support to the project team in all its endeavors.

Mr. Md. Shamsul Haque started his remarks by highlighting 'Partnership' as one of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by United Nations. He thanked SAARC Agriculture Centre for leading this Consortium for Scaling-Up Climate Smart Agriculture in South Asia in partnership with IFAD, IFPRI and SDF, and the member states of SAARC. According to him, agricultural cooperation and cultural cooperation will help create visibility for the countries of the SAARC region. During his speech, Dr. Haque referred to the recently concluded COP26 in Glasgow, UK and suggested that the SAARC Agriculture Centre and the national focal point of the member countries should work together to seek funding from developed countries to achieve the climate change adaptation agenda for the agriculture sector of the region. He added that this project will strengthen the regional cooperation and bring synergy among the SAARC entities.



His Excellency Esala Ruwan Weerakoon stated that ensuring food security and promoting sustainable agriculture constitute key components of regional cooperation under the framework of SAARC. SAARC is, therefore, committed to increase investment, promote research and development, facilitate technical cooperation, and apply innovative, appropriate, and reliable technologies for enhancing productivity and promoting sustainable farming with a view to ensuring food and nutritional security. To achieve this, SAARC has established the SAARC Food Bank and SAARC Seed Bank and has finalized the SAARC Agriculture Vision 2030 in line with the SDGs. According to him, the SAARC Agriculture Centre, as a Centre of Excellence, has been successfully addressing the needs of research and development in the field of agriculture. The Centre is also engaged in promoting collaboration with other regional and international organizations to introduce sustainable agricultural development across the region. This project is the tangible outcome of the Centre's continued engagement and collaboration with our development partners, namely IFAD and IFPRI. He emphasized that this multi-country project is the first of its kind in the region and is being launched at a time when climate change has emerged as a major threat to the agricultural landscape. A project of this nature for scaling-up climate-smart agriculture is not a mere aspiration but is an absolute need. He added that the project design will ensure that many smallholder farmers in the region, especially women, are hugely benefitted through climate-smart agricultural technologies.



Mr. Jamal Uddin Ahmed, in his concluding remarks expressed SAC's gratitude to the Hon'ble Minister Dr. Muhammed Abdur Razzaque MP, for his unwavering support toward the C-SUCSeS initiative. Dr. Razzaque who was invited as the chief guest, could not attend the meeting due to other political commitments. He conveyed his deepest appreciation for H.E. Mr. Esala Weerakoon, Secretary General of SAARC for his leadership and guidance in getting the concurrence from all Member States and for carrying forward the talks with the development partners. He thanked Mr. Md. Shamsul Haque, Additional Foreign Secretary (SAARC & BIMSTEC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh, for highlighting the overarching issues concerning SAARC and SAC in his special address. Other eminent guest he thanked included Dr. Ruhul Amin Talukder, Additional Secretary (PPC), Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh, for delivering his insightful speech and for extending the Ministry's continued support to SAC. He credited the leadership of both Dr. S.M. Bokthiar, the former Director of SAC and the present Chairman of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council, and Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain, the incumbent Director of SAC, for walking the extra mile to obtain policy approval and to secure funding for the project braving manifold challenges. He applauded their contribution for the project. Other distinguished guest he acknowledged for their contributions included Mr. Ibrahim Shabau, Director General, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture of Maldives, and Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali, Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council for delivering their remarkable speeches. He extended his gratitude to Mr. Abdelkarim Sma, Lead Regional Economist, Asia and Pacific Region, IFAD and his team; Mr. Anuj Goel, Officer-in-Charge, SDF and his team; Dr. Shahidur Rashid, Director for South Asia, IFPRI and his team for their relentless support to successfully launch the C-SUCSeS project. He also thanked Mr. Kinzang Gyeltshen, Project Coordinator, SAC and other colleagues from SAC for doing an incredible job in facilitating the project and for coordinating with the SAARC Member States, funding agencies and other development partners. He concluded the session by stating that the prospect of the project is intriguing, however, this would be the first brick in the foundation as we still have a long way to go. Hence, the success of the project will be measured by degree of conversion of its promises and realization of its potentials.



Annex 1 Agenda

24 November 2021 (Wednesday), Time: 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM, Bangladesh Standard Time (BST)			Comments (Online/In-Person)
3:10 – 3:25 PM	Registration of Guest and Participants	Guest and Participants in Dhaka only	In-person
3:25 – 3:30 PM	Arrival of Chief Guest (Unable to attend)	Honorable Minister, Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, M.P., Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.	In-person
3:30 – 3:32 PM	Recitation from Holy Quran	Imam of Bangladesh Agricultural research Council's Masjid	In-person
3:32 – 3:37 PM	Welcome Address	Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain, Director, SAARC Agriculture Centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh.	In-person
3:37 – 3:46 PM	Opening Remarks (IFAD)	Mr. Abdelkarim Sma, Lead Regional Economist, Asia and Pacific Region, IFAD, Rome, Italy.	Online
3:46 – 3:51 PM	Opening Remarks (SDF)	Mr. Anuj Goel, Officer-in-Charge, SAARC Development Fund (SDF), Bhutan.	Online

3:51 – 3:56 PM	Opening Remarks (IFPRI)	Dr. Shahidur Rashid, Director for South Asia, IFPRI, New Delhi, India.	Online
3:56 – 4:03 PM	Brief overview of C-SUCSeS Project	Mr. Kinzang Gyeltshen, Project Coordinator, C-SUCSeS Project, SAC, Dhaka.	In-person
4:03 – 4:13 PM	Importance of regional cooperation in promoting sustainable and resilient agricultural intensification in South Asia	Mr. Ibrahim Shabau, Director General, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture, Maldives.	Online
4:13 – 4:23 PM	Role of SAARC Member States in implementing the project activities to achieve its intended objectives	Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali, Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), Pakistan.	Online
4:23 – 4:28 PM	Special Guest Remarks	Dr. Shaikh Mohammad Bokhtiar, Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council. Dhaka, Bangladesh.	Online
4:28 – 4:33 PM	Special Guest Remarks	Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin Talukder, Additional Secretary (PPC), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.	In-person
4:33 – 4:38 PM	Special Guest Remarks	Mr. Md. Shamsul Haque, Additional Secretary, SAARC & BIMSTEC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.	In-person
4:38 – 4:44 PM	Message from SAARC Secretariat	H.E. Esala Ruwan Weerakoon, Secretary General of SAARC, SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu, Nepal.	Online
4:44 – 4:54 PM	Chief Guest Speech (Unable to attend)	Honorable Minister, Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, MP, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.	In-person
4:54 – 4:55 PM	Opening of C-SUCSeS Project Plaque by Chief Guest		
4:55 – 5:00 PM	Concluding Remarks	Mr. Jamal Uddin Ahmed, Director (ARD and SDF), SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu, Nepal.	Online

Annex 2

Attendee List - Virtual Panelist

Sl.No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Location
1	Mr. Abdelkarim Sma	Lead Regional Economist, Asia and the Pacific Region	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Italy
2	Mr. Anuj Goel	Officer-in-Charge	SAARC Development Fund (SDF)	Bhutan
3	Dr. Shahidur Rashid	Director for South Asia	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
4	Mr. Ibrahim Shabau	Director General	Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture	Maldives
5	Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali	Chairman	Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC)	Pakistan
6	H.E. Esala Ruwan Weerakoon	Secretary General of SAARC	SAARC Secretariat	Nepal
7	Mr. Jamal Uddin Ahmed	Director (ARD and SDF)	SAARC Secretariat	Nepal

Attendees

Sl.No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Location
1	Tapas Chakraborty	Senior Programme Manager, Climate Change Program	BRAC	Bangladesh
2	Dr. Munshi Sulaiman	Regional research lead in Africa, BRAC International & Research Advisor, BIGD	BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)	United States
3	Dr. Rohini Kamal	Research Fellow	BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)	Bangladesh
4	Anisha Mohan	Communications Associate, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
5	Barun Deb Pal	Project Manager, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
6	Dr. Anjani Kumar	Senior Research Fellow, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
7	Gaurav Tripathi	Research Analyst, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
8	Himanshu Pathak	Program Manager, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
9	Mamata Pradhan	Research Coordinator, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
10	Ruchi Narang	Administrative Coordinator, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
11	Ruchira Boss	Research Analyst, Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
12	Shreya Kapoor	Research Analyst, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India

13	Vinay Kumar Sonkar	Research Analyst, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	India
14	Arnoud Hameleers	Country Director - Bangladesh	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Bangladesh
15	Dilva Terzano	Environment and Natural Resource Management Specialist	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Italy
16	Kisa Mfalila	Lead Environment and Climate Specialist, Asia and the Pacific Region	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	India
17	Marie-Aude Even	Senior Technical Specialist, Agronomy	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Ghana
18	Shantonu Abe	Professional Officer	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Italy
19	Sherina Tabassum	Country Director - Maldives and Sri Lanka	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Bangladesh
20	Gopal Chandra Sarker	Project Director (PD), Haor Infrastructure and Livelihood Improvement Project (HILIP)	Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	Bangladesh
21	Tika Ram Chapagain	Scientist (S-4), Horticulture	Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC), Agricultural Environment Research Division (AERD)	Nepal
22	Phuntsho Choden	Manager, Communications and Knowledge Management	SAARC Development Fund (SDF)	Bhutan
23	Dr. Sima Kundu	Project Director	Cotton Development Board	Bangladesh

In-person - Attendees

Sl.No.	Name	Designation	Organization
1	Mr. Md. Shamsul Haque	Additional Secretary (SAARC & BIMSTEC)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
2	Dr. Md. Ruhul Amin Talukder	Additional Secretary (PPC)	Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
3	Mrs. Tajkera Khatun	Joint Secretary (IC Branch)	Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
4	Dr. Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhury	Member Director (Crops Division)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
5	Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan	Member Director (Natural Resource Management)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
6	Dr. Md. Abdul Awal	Member Director (BARC)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
7	Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim	Member Director (Livestock)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
8	Dr. Md. Saifullah	Member Director (Admin & Finance)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
9	Dr. Md. Mosharraf Uddin Molla	Member Director (Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
10	Dr. Md. Akkas Ali	Director (Crops and Natural Resources)	Krishi Gobeshona Foundation (KGF)

11	Mr. Ajit Kumar Chakraborty	Director (Finance)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
12	Dr. Kabir Uddin Ahmed	Director (AIC)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
13	Mr. Md. Abdul Mottakin	Director (SS)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
14	Dr. Md. Harunur Rashid	Director, PIU-BARC, National Agricultural Technology Project, Phase-II (NATP-2)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
15	Mr. Md. Mustafizur Rahman	Principal Technical Officer	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
16	Mr. Md. Al Mobasher Hussen	Principal Training Officer (HRT Unit)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
17	Dr. Md. Khairul Alam	Principal Scientific Officer (Soil Unit)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
18	Dr. Susmita Das	Principal Documentation Officer (AIC)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
19	Dr. Suraya Parvin	Principal Scientific Officer (TTMU)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
20	Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque	Ex-Director, SAC and Sector Coordinator-Extension, National Agricultural Technology Project, Phase-II (NATP-2)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
21	Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam Mondal	Ex-Director General	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI)
22	Dr. Abul Kalam Azad	Ex-Director General	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI)
23	Mr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed	Deputy Managing Director	Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)
24	Mr. A F M Hayatullah	Chairman	Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC)
25	Dr. Surajit Saha Roy	Chief Information Officer	Agricultural Information Services (AIS)
26	Dr. Debasish Sarker	Director General	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI)
27	Dr. Mirza Mofazzal Islam	Director General	Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA)
28	Dr. Md. Amzad Hossain	Director General	Bangladesh Sugarcrop Research Institute (BSRI)
29	Dr. Fauzia Yasmin	Director (TTMU)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
30	Dr. Sohela Akhter	Director (TCRC)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI)
31	Dr. Monowar Karim Khan	Member Director (PRC)	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
32	Md. Shahjahan Ali Biswas	Director (AIS)	Agricultural Information Services (AIS)
33	Dr. Jahiruddin	Professor, and Consultant, NATP-2, BARC	Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU)
34	Farhana Urme	Communications and KM Adviser - Bangladesh Office	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
35	Dr. Saidul Islam	Senior Specialist, Agricultural and Research Development	International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
36	Mr. Muhammad Ashraful Habib	Senior Specialist, Agricultural and Research Development	International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

37	Md. Mizan	Assistant Scientist	International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
38	Mr. Mohammad Abdur Rashid	Senior Specialist, Agriculture and Fisheries Division	Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS)
39	Rehana Noor	Deputy Manager	BRAC
41	Rebika Laishram	Communications Specialist, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
42	Jyotsana Dua	Senior Office Manager, South Asia Region (SAR)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
43	Dr. Shoumi Mustafa	Senior Research Coordinator	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
44	Md. Shafiqul Karim	Communications Advisor	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
45	Razin Iqbal Kabir	Research Analyst II	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
46	Nabila Afrin Shaima	Research Assistant	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
47	Sonali Tazrin Bhuiyan	Finance and Administrative Assistant	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
48	Dr. Md. Baktear Hossain	Director (SAC)	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
49	Dr. Md. Younus Ali	Senior Technical Officer and	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
50	Mr. Mizanur Rahman	Personal Officer to Director	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
51	Mr. Kinzang Gyeltshen	Project Coordinator	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
52	Dr. Nasreen Sultana	Senior Program Specialist (Horticulture)	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
53	Dr. Sreekanth Attaluri	Senior Program Specialist (Crops)	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
54	Dr. Grinson George	Senior Program Specialist (Fisheries)	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
55	Fatema Nasrin Jahan	Senior Program Officer (NRM)	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
56	Mr. Md. Saifur Rahman	Administrative Officer	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
57	Md. Emdadul Hoque	Store & Procurement Officer	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
58	Mr. Abdul Salam	Senior Finance Officer	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
59	Mr. Mohammad Abdullah	Senior Program Officer (Publication)	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
60	Mr. Md. Mizanur Rahman	IT Manager (Database)	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
61	Mr. Md. Abdul Kadir	IT Manager (Software)	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
62	Ms. Shanjida Akter	Graphic Designer	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
63	Mr. Md. Nurul Wara	Program Assistant	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
64	Mr. A.T.M. Mostafizur Rahman Majumder	Accounts Assistant	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)

65	Mrs. Nazmoon Nahar	Cataloguer	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
66	Md. Shazahan Islam	Finance Officer, C-SUCSeS Project	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)
67	Md. Robyul Islam	Programme Officer, C-SUCSeS Project	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)

Press

Sl.No.	Name	Designation	Organization
1	Abul Mobarak Siddique	Reporter	AIS
2	Md. Nasir Uddin	Reporter	AIS
3	Mohibub Zaman	Staff Correspondent	Daily Sun
4	Jibon Ahsan	Correspondent	Xinhua News
5	Jahangir Kabir	Photograher	PID
6	Mizanur Rahman	Presenter	Bangladesh Betar
7	Ashraful Alam	Head of News	Somoy News
8	S. M. Biplob	Reporter	Metro News
9	Md. Asiful Alom	Senior Reporter	Mukto Khobor
10	Md. Abu Hanif	University Correspondent	Daily Ittefaq
11	S. M. Ahasan Habib	Broadcast Journalist	Channel 24
12	Shawkat Ali	Reporter	The Business Standard
13	Salahuddin Bablu	Senior Reporter	SATV
14	Yousuf	Reporter	Boishakhi TV
15	Md. Nasir	Reporter	Boishakhi TV
16	Nazrul	Reporter	Amader Sangbad
17	Md. Abdullah	Senior Reporter	Dainik Banglar Nabo Kantha
18	Shahin	Cameraman	ATN Bangla
19	Saif Uddin	Reporter	The Financial Express
20	Reaz Ahmad	Executive Editor	Dhaka Tribune



SOUTH
ASIA

IFPRI South Asia Regional Office
NASC Complex, CG Block,
Dev Prakash Shastri Road,
Pusa, New Delhi 110012 India.
Phone: +91 11 42244545
<https://southasia.ifpri.info/>