

# Improving Phytosanitary Trade Compliance in Bangladesh

## About Project:

The Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS)/Trade and Regulatory Capacity Building Division (TRCBD) provides trade partners with capacity building that enables their adoption and implementation of obligations under the international Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement of the World Trade Organization (WTO). FAS and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) work hand in hand to increase Bangladesh's ability to improve its institutional regulatory system through the Bangladesh SPS Trade Capacity Building Program. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) supports the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service's (FAS) Strategic Plan by the following:

1. Supporting trade policy by pursuing the development of rules-based international systems that facilitate global trade.
2. Supporting trade capacity building and Food Security by enhancing partner countries' capacity for agricultural development and participation in international trade.

USDA/FAS seeks APAARI's partnership to assist the DAE to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Bangladesh's plant health system including, but not limited to, strengthening the national pest risk analysis system, national export and import certification system, and the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) structure processes. Within these broad areas, specific recommendations are noted in the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation, which will guide the development and implementation of the NPPO strategic plan. USDA/FAS also seeks to leverage its resources and collaborate with the STDF/WTO on further underscoring the importance of MRLs in trade and the related capacities that need to be developed with an innovative, cross-cutting approach. Coordination with the relevant regulatory authorities in Bangladesh and at a regional level will be a requirement for mitigating pesticide residues through technical capacity development and evaluation.

The expected key result areas include enhanced market access by strengthening coordination among various SPS related agencies in Bangladesh, capacity building for developing technical skills (and so also functional skills) on important areas of export and import related to SPS, and establishment of an SPS information management system for the country. Also, while complementing and supplementing the ongoing STDF/ 634/ Biopesticides project training there will be skills developed for detecting MRLs and for enhancing the role of biopesticides for promoting market access and facilitation of trade.

## **APAARI will work with USDA/FAS and the DAE authorities to implement various prioritized activities contributing to the following objectives:**

1. Facilitate collaboration and coordination within the Ministry of Agriculture, the DAE, PQW, PPW, and other relevant stakeholders to operationalize the NPPO.
2. Strengthen the institutional capacity of the NPPO to establish a framework for the formation of a National Plant Protection Authority.
3. Increase awareness of trade issues linked to non-compliance with pesticide MRLs and promote an Integrated Pest Management approach for overcoming these trade issues.

4. Enhance the capacity of the Bangladesh plant health system to boost regulatory harmonization for registration of biopesticides.

The progress achieved so far in the project can be viewed from the quarterly reports links provided below:

[BD Quarterly \(Jan- Mar 21\) Report.pdf](#)  
[BD Quarterly \(April-June 21\) Report.pdf](#)  
[BD Quarterly \(July-Sep 21\) Report .pdf](#)

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