

**“Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan - 2009:
Agriculture and Food Security”**

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BCCSAP-2009: Some Salient Features

- BCCSAP-2009 is prepared to face the impacts of climate change in a **coordinated and planned manner** to minimize its negative consequences;
- It aims to build the capacity and resilience of the country to meet the challenges of climate change over the next 20-25 years through an **initial 10 year programme**;
- BCCSAP-2009 is drawn upon the principles of sustainable development and is to undertake activities in all four building blocks of the Bali Action Plan: **Adaptation, Mitigation, Technology Transfer** and adequate and timely **flow of funds and investment** within a framework of food, energy, water and livelihoods security for all its citizens;
- Bangladesh has already made climate change management an **integral part of its national plan and development policies** (e.g. the Vision 2021 and the SFYP).

BCCSAP-2009: Standing upon Six Pillars!

- **Food security, social protection and health;**
- Comprehensive Disaster Management;
- Infrastructure Development
- Research and Knowledge Management
- Mitigation and low-carbon development and
- Capacity building and institutional development

BCCSAP-2009: Food security, social protection and health

- **P1: Institutional Capacity for research towards climate resilient cultivars and their dissemination;**
- **P2: Development of climate resilient cropping systems;**
- **P3: Adaptation against drought;**
- **P4: Adaptation to fisheries sector;**
- **P5: Adaptation to livestock sector**
- **P6: Adaptation in health sector**
- **P7: Water and Sanitation programme in climate vulnerable areas**
- **P8: Livelihood protection in ecologically fragile areas and**
- **P9: Livelihood protection of vulnerable socio-economic groups**

Agriculture and Food Security: Some Facts and Figures!

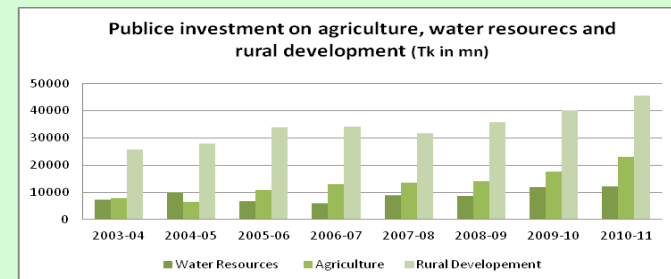
- Agriculture continues to remain the **largest private sector** in Bangladesh.
- It contributes **19.95 per cent of Bangladesh's GDP**; whereas it employs **43.53 per cent of her total workforce**.
- Besides this sector remains the major provider of livelihood activities for the rural Bangladesh, her food security critically depends upon agriculture, mainly on the rice production, which assures about **95 per cent of the total demand for rice of the country**.
- About **89.3 per cent** of the farmers in Bangladesh are found to be **landless, small and marginal**;
- Over **60 per cent** of the rural families still depend on agriculture for their living;
- Despite significant achievement in food production, Bangladesh still needs to depend on food import for its internal consumption.

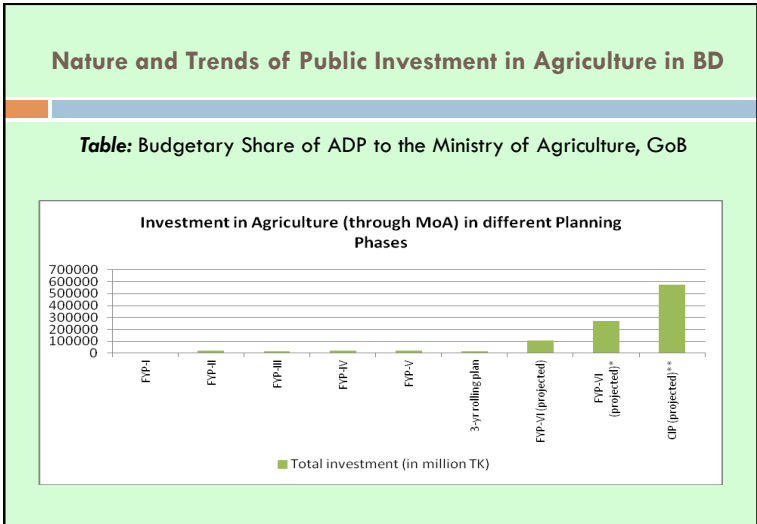
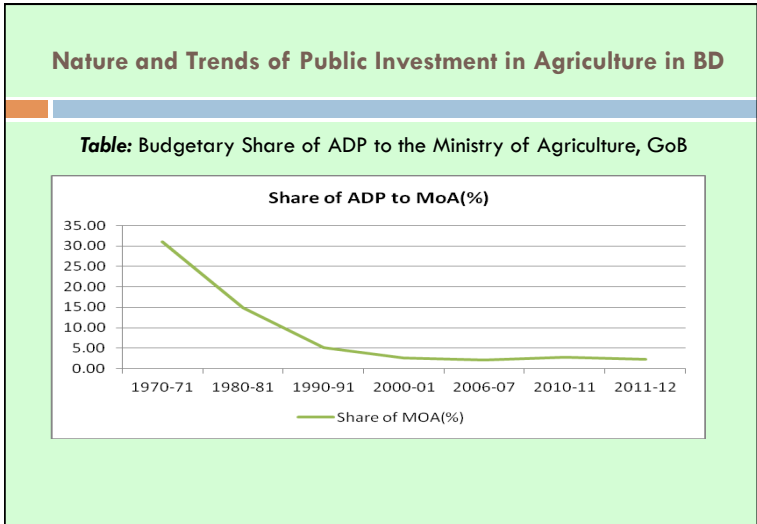
Agriculture and Food Security: Some Facts and Figures!

- Against this reality, *adequate public investment in agriculture is seen as the most viable option* to face such challenges efficiently and the government is determined to do that.
- *Investment in agriculture sector in Bangladesh is important to reduce bottlenecks*, particularly in farm production and productivity; rural infrastructure such as water, electricity, rural roads, market development etc; to support farm services such as research and development and extension, etc.
- Government's *sixth five year plan (2011-15), the perspective plan (2010-21), the country investment plan (2011-15), draft national agriculture policy-2011, BCCSAP-2009, besides the national budgets* are some of the important planning and policy documents which talks about investment in agriculture, although there are areas of mismatch and concerns which needs to be taken care of.

Nature and Trends of Public Investment in Agriculture in BD

Table: Public Investment in Agriculture and Allied Sectors in BD





But the Reality Remains Quite Different!!

- Despite two very impressive allocations made in the first two successive budgets by the current government, a sharp reduction in **allocation to agriculture by 4.23 per cent** and **agricultural subsidy by an astonishing 26.66 per cent** in FY2011-12 compare to the revised budget of FY2010-11 even though the overall size of **the budget has increased by 25.8 per cent** compare to the last year's budget is something unexpected from this government;
- Although the CIP and the SFYP time period is almost similar, the projected amount of money allocated for agriculture and food security is different, CIP proposed almost double than the SFYP;
- The FY2011-12 saw no allocation made for agriculture research and innovation, although the CIP has proposed a **1 Billion USD** in this area;
- This makes the needs and reality quite different.

Consistency Check: CIP, SFYP, PP and Budget FY11 & FY12

| Areas of Intervention | Perspective Plan (PP) | Sixth 5 Year Plan (SFYP) | CIP | Budget FY11 & FY12 | Comments |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Food Production | Highly Stressed | Highly stressed | Highly Stressed | No serious stress | Inconsistency on food self-suffici. |
| Agri Research & Extension | Investment stressed | Investment stressed | A Top priority | No new allocation | Inconsistency |
| Impacts of CC on Agri prod. | Highly stressed | No specific strategy | Highly stressed | Little money | Inconsistency |
| Productivity and Tech | Highly stressed | Devised strategies | Stressed through R&D | No emphasis | Inconsistency |
| Spatial Intervention | Coast, Char, Monga area got priority | Coast, Char, Monga area got priority | Southern districts | Aila affected area | Inconsistency in crop dev. plan |
| Irrigation | Highly stressed | Devised Strategies | Proposed huge invest. | Allocation below target | Inconsistency |
| Fisheries and Livestock | Highly Stressed | Devised Strategies | Doubled up investment | Allocation below target | Inconsistency |

Consistency Check: CIP, SFYP, PP and Budget FY11 & FY12

| Areas of Intervention | Perspective Plan (PP) | Sixth 5 Year Plan (SFYP) | CIP | Budget FY11 & FY12 | Comments |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Rural Dev. & Institutions | Emphasis on local Govern | Emphasis on Local Govern | Investment on connectivity | Less emphasis | Some Inconsistency |
| Employment Generation | Highly stressed | Non-farm empl stressed | No specific programme | Low allocation | Inconsistency |
| Rural Credit | Stress on Reform | Micro-credit strateav | No programme | No initiative | Inconsistency |
| Food price stabilization | Vaguely mentioned | No specific strategies | FPM System is stressed | No specific measure | Loose Control by the Govt |
| Social safety Net Program | Stressed some extent | As usual focus on SSNs | Capacity & Institutions for effective SSN | As usual budgetary measures | No region-specific stress is been given |
| Management of Natural Res | No direction | Some directions | Not considered | No specific Initiative | An important issues is missed |
| Improve nutritional stat | Stressed to make 15% | No specific target | Community based progr | Little initiatives | Inconsistency in CIP and SFYP |

- ### What are the concerns then?
- The present government targets to achieve **food self-sufficiency by 2013?** Achievable or not?
 - **Many excellent plans and programmes**, including the BCCSAP, the SFYP, the PP, the Country Investment Plan (CIP), draft National Agriculture Policy-2011, have been prepared to fight against food security, among others, in a planned and coordinated manner;
 - Yet, **wide discrepancies** are found in various *plans-promises and actual investment and financing; between allocation and actual implementation;*
 - There also remains issues of contradictory interests and **mismatch in different policies and plans**, including CIP and the Sixth Five Year Plan;
 - An important concern like **research and innovation in agriculture** to fight against many adversaries like climate change through adequate public finance remains a matter of plan only!
 - **Support to food security through climate finance** remains an area of clear uncertainty, except for our own budgetary allocations!

- ### What are the concerns then?
- Achieving **long-term food security and sustainability** without addressing issues concerning:
 - (i) **land management and minimization of conversion** of cultivable land into non-cultivable purposes;
 - (ii) **management of water resources in an integrated and efficient manner** is coming up as an utmost urgency;
 - (iii) develop and disseminate **suitable and quality seeds for farmers**;
 - (iv) quality services by the **agriculture extension department**;
 - (v) make effective the **decentralized governance system**;
 - (vi) make agro-based **rural employment opportunities**;
 - (vii) discourage large-scale and **unplanned urbanization**.
 - These issues thus need to be given top **priority through public investment and possible others external sources**, including external climate finances.

- ### People's Perception on the BCCSAP-2009
- It is very important to **understand people's perceptions** on CC and climate adaptation for addressing the issues correctly and better implementation of the climate programmes (44 in the BCCSAP-09);
 - It is very important to **translate the BCCSAP into Bangla**;
 - Govt. should make their plan of actions on agriculture adaptation, based on **agro-ecological zone and level of vulnerabilities to CC**;
 - Support to develop **surface level water reservoir system** in the northern regions;
 - There is also a need to stop **unplanned infrastructure development** (e.g. bridge, culvert, etc. at local level). Required dredging should be done for cannels and rivers for water-flows and surface water preservation.

People's Perception on the BCCSAP-2009

- Stop **unplanned shrimp culture** in the coastal areas;
- **Strengthen the BADC for input supply** to the farmers besides controlling MNCs' aggression;
- **Required allocation for research and development** for inventing different varieties of heat, cold, saline and flood tolerant seeds;
- **Stop all agricultural land-grabbing** by the powerful classes for unplanned urbanization;
- **Train the farmers** on the effects of CC and adaptation techniques to climate change in farming activities.

Some Proposals

- **Internalize climate concerns**, including food security, into our development agenda;
- **Strengthening the capacity** of all concerns in planning and implementation;
- Keeping in mind that agriculture and food security remain two main areas of concerns, **invest should be made in agriculture and food security in a coordinated manner** and as per the plans and promises;
- Increased and focused drive to **generate resources**, from international and external sources, through climate finance, finances for implementing CIP and other such sources;
- Amongst various BCCSAP-2009 programmes, priority financing should be made available to **agriculture research and capacity building, mainstreaming climate concerns into development plan.**

Thank You Very Much!