



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

Safer Food in Bangladesh

Enhancing the technical capacity of the Bangladesh's National Food Safety Authority

Overview

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and USAID work hand in hand to increase Bangladesh's ability to improve its food safety as a means of improving food security, consumer health, trade, and providing space for economic progress. USDA aims to help the Government of Bangladesh strengthen market access transparency through a science-based sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) regulatory system.

USDA Capacity Building

These efforts build on previous food safety efforts in Bangladesh by supporting the Bangladesh Food Safety Authority's (BFSA) implementation of the Bangladesh Food Safety Act (FSA). The FSA designates SPS requirements for imported and locally produced food, with the goal of improving the safety of domestic food products and international market access. The BFSA has the mandate to coordinate and enforce the FSA in coordination with numerous ministries across the Government of Bangladesh.

In partnership with Kansas University, USDA is working to engage with public and private food-sector stakeholders, enhance the institutional capacity and technical development of the BFSA, and leverage other donors' efforts to achieve a fully functional food safety regulatory system.

Results Since 2018, USDA contributed to the training of 250 food safety regulators and practitioners in the skills needed to conduct risk-based inspections of processing facilities, control cross-contamination and pathogen growth, and develop SPS control measures. USDA has also championed programs such as an aquaculture train-the-trainers for government regulators, which alongside the private sector, has improved both the safety and export readiness of Bangladesh's prized Giant Tiger-Prawn sector using principles of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) which has both local and international trade benefits with the United States and other partners. The USDA continues to invest in the BFSA in order to assess employee competencies, develop and tailor training programs that increase the technical competency of personnel to ensure that the BFSA is successful in its mission.



Key Achievements

Conducted a series of host engagement meetings with government and industry food-sector groups to identify the priority gaps and needs for investment;

Assisted with the harmonization of food safety regulations between ministries, agencies, and BFSA;

Supported the BFSA in institutional capacity building through the formalization of a technical advisory team;

Hosted a field survey training at Dhaka University on conducting a Food Safety Culture Assessment.



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