



BIRTAN
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Bangladesh Institute of Research and Training
on Applied Nutrition

Foreword

BIRTAN was created with a mission to raise the level of nutrition of the country through applied nutritional research and training. After shifting to its own 100 acre campus BIRTAN has been embarking on newer avenues to reach this target. To make its vision to be a center of excellence for applied nutritional research and education BIRTAN has organized 06 seminar at divisional level. The objective of these programs was to find the niche where BIRTAN can serve best to attain the food and nutrition security for the nation. In these program, Divisional Commissioners of the respective divisions attended as the chief guest.

A national level workshop on SDG were also organized which was focused on how BIRTAN should act to attain the SDG GOAL 2. Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture attended as the chief guest of this program.

BIRTAN has also embarked on the dissemination and operationalization of the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (NFNSP) 2020 and its Plan of Action - PoA (2021-2030), and related cross sectoral nutrition frameworks at the sub-national level. Partnering with Food Planning and Monitoring Unit (FPMU), Ministry of Food and and Bangladesh National Nutrition Council (BNNC) and with the technical support of the FAO Meeting the Undernutrition Challenge (MUCH) project BIRTAN has trained 1425 District and Upazila Nutrition Coordination Committee member with the objective of enhancing knowledge and understanding of government officials at sub-national level, on FNS policy framework, FNS indicators and their monitoring.

All these works on various levels and sectors are to ensure nutrition for the citizens of Bangladesh as it was codified in 1972 Constitution 18 (1) by the father of the nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. I hope BIRTAN's officials will give some extra effort to achieve his dream of 'Sonar Bangla' (Golden Bengal)

06 seminars focusing on the role of BIRTAN held across the country

BIRTAN has arranged six seminars across the country on various issues involving applied nutritional topics with a vision to identify the precise roles BIRTAN has to play in the particular issue. 06 of the seminars held at the divisional districts and was organized in the presence of Divisional Commissioner and concerned stakeholders. The synopses of these programs are presented here for the readers:

BIRTAN Head Office:



On June 1, 2022 A seminar titled 'BIRTAN's role in ensuring Food and Nutrition Security' held at BIRTAN head office. The training room of head office was the venue for the occasion. The titled paper was presented by Prof. Nazma Shaheen, Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Dhaka. The program was presided by Md. Abdul Wadud, Executive Director (Addl. Secretary), BIRTAN. Chief Guest of the program was Wahida Akter, Additional Secretary (Administration Wing), Ministry of Agriculture. Dr. Mehedi Masud, Project Director, Year Round Fruit Production for Nutrition Improvement Project, Department of Agricultural Extension, Dr. Hafizul Haque Khan, Chief Scientific Officer, Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute and Dr. Md. Rafikul Islam also spoke on the issue. The discussants and the participant were engaged in a spontaneous dialogue with a view to pinpoint the role that BIRTAN has to play to raise the level of the nutrition of the country.

Regional Office, Noakhali:



Regional office, Noakhali organized a seminar at Chittagong Circuit House on 14 June, 2022 . The title of the seminar was 'The Role of Agriculture of Chittagong in raising the level of nutrition of the People: Stake of BIRTAN'. The seminar was presided by Md. Mijanur Rahman, the Addl. Divisional Commissioner (Development), Joint Secreary. Chief Guest of the program was Md. Abdul Wadud, Executive Director (Addl. Secretary), BIRTAN. The main paper was presented by Dr. Munshi Rashid Ahmed, Hill Agriculture Research Centre, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute.

Regional Office, Netrokona

Regional office, Netrokona organized a seminar at District Council Conference Room, Mymensingh, on 19 June, 2022 . The title of the seminar was 'Agriculture of Mymensingh Region in Food and Nutrition: Role of BIRTAN'. The seminar Chief Guest of the seminar was Md. Shafikur Reza Biswas, Divisional Commissioner (Addl Secreary), Mymensingh. The main paper was presented by Dr. Mohammad Gulzarul Aziz, Professor, Department of Food Technology and Rural Industries, Bangladesh Agricultural University.



Regional Office, Rangpur



The regional seminar of Rangpur division was organized at BRAC learning center, Rangpur on 19 June, 2022. The title of the seminar was 'Role of Processed Food In Ensuring Food and Nutrition: BIRTAN's Role'. Chief Guest of the seminar was Abdul Wahab Bhuiyan, Divisional Commissioner (Addl Secreaty), Rangpur. The main paper was presented by Dr. Maruf Ahmed, Professor, Department of Food processing and Preservation, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science & Technology University. The seminar was presided by Md. Abdul Wadud, Executive Director (Addl. Secretary).

Regional Office, Sirajganj

Regional office Sirajganj arranged their Seminar at District Commissioners office, Rajshahi on 21 June, 2022. The title of the seminar was 'Role of Agriculture of Rajshahi in ensuring Food And Nutrition Security: BIRTAN's Role'. The seminar was presided by Md. Khorshed Alam ndc, Director (Joint Secretary), BIRTAN. Chief Guest of the Seminar was GSM Jafarullah Divisional Commissioner (Addl Secreaty), Rajshahi. The main paper was presented by Dr. Md. Monirul Islam, Ex Member Director (Nutrition), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council.



Regional Office, Barishal

Regional office Barishal arranged their Seminar at their regional office on 23 June, 2022. The title of the seminar was 'Role of Agriculture of Barishal in ensuring Food And Nutrition Security: BIRTAN's Role'. The seminar was presided by Md. Abdul Wadud, Executive Director (Addl. Secretary). Chief Guest of the Seminar was Md. Amin Ul Hasan, Divisional Commissioner (Addl. Secretray), Barishal. The main paper was presented by Dr. Md. Alomgir Hossain, Chief Scientific Officer, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Barishal.



Regional Office, Jhenaidah



A Seminar Title- " Dietary Approaches to Boost the Immune System and Fight Infections: The Role of BIRTAN" was held on 23.06.2022 in the Conference hall of Divisional Commissioner Office, Khulna. Presided over by Md. Khorshed Alam, Director (Joint Secretary) BIRTAN Attended the Seminar as the Chief guest Md. Shahidul Islam, Divisional Commissioner (In-charge), Khulna Division. Tanvir Ahmed, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Nutrition & Food Technology, JSTU presented the key note address at the Seminar. Besides Md. Monjurul Murshid, Director (Health), Khulna Division was present at the negotiator. The Seminar was conducted by Dr. Md. Nur Alam Siddiqui, Senior Scientific Officer, BIRTAN, Khulna Divisional Office. More than 50 District & Divisional level Govt. Officials were present at the Seminar.

BIRTAN's Conducted conducted FNS workshops for UNNC-DNCC Members



BIRTAN has also embarked on the dissemination and operationalization of the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (NFNSP) 2020 and its Plan of Action - PoA (2021-2030), and related cross sectoral nutrition frameworks at the sub-national level. Partnering with Food Planning and Monitoring Unit (FPMU), Ministry of Food and and Bangladesh National Nutrition Council (BNNC) and with the technical support of the FAO Meeting the Undernutrition Challenge (MUCH) project BIRTAN has trained 1425 District and Upazila Nutrition Coordination Committee member with the objective of enhancing knowledge and understanding of government officials at sub-national level, on FNS policy framework, FNS indicators and their monitoring

After completion of two and half days of TOT programme arranged by FAO-MUCH in late November, BIRTAN conducted FNS workshops . The participants were District and upazila level officials from Agriculture/ Livestock/Fisheries, social welfare, women and children affairs, school teachers. Out of 1425 participants, the highest number (581officials) came from Department of agriculture extension (DAE), 340 participants came from department of livestock and 330 officials from fisheries department. Apart from these, 29 officials from social service, 24 participants from the department of health and family welfare, 72 officials from women and children affairs (MOWCA) and 40 participants were school and college teacher also attended in the workshops. Furthermore, 10 veterinary surgeons, one vice chairman and one from Islamic Foundation also participated.

In total 1425 officials from all 64 districts and 495 upazilas attended in these workshops organized at head office and 07 regional stations.

These workshops provided an understanding of the comprehensive FNS policies in Bangladesh (NFNSP 2020 and PoA (2021-2030), the indicators for monitoring the PoA frameworks, and CIP3) using Results Based Management techniques for improved delivery of nutrition services. The attendees get an understanding of the Bangladesh National Food Safety Strategy (2022-2026) and its implementation procedures. The practical demonstration of healthy food combinations, technologies for planning and preparing nutritious and diversified recipes and diets also included in the workshop.

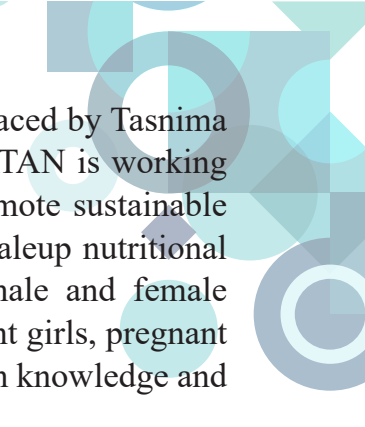
The objective of the program was to Improve the understanding of FNS policy framework andstrengthen capacity for delivery of nutrition services at the sub-national level.

SDG Workshop Held at BIRTAN HQ



Bangladesh Institute for Research and Training in Applied Nutrition (BIRTAN) has organized a National Workshop on Achieving Food and Nutrition Security in the context of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG-2). The workshop was organized at BIRTAN head office on 02 April, 2022 and it was presided by

under ministry of Agriculture is working to enhance the nutritional status of people of Bangladesh through research and training. It is also working on different agriculture development issues which eventually contributing to achieve SDG goals specially for goal-2 including nutrient enriched crops. The chief guest of this seminar was Md. Sayedul Islam, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and chaired by Md. Abdul Wadud, Executive Director (Additional Secretary) BIRTAN. Seminar was divided into two parts; 1st part was introductory where all participants introduced themselves and welcomed speech about BIRTAN by chair. He informed the overall activity and organizational structure of BIRTAN.



In the second part, the 1st presentation was ‘BIRTAN’s activity related to SDG’ placed by Tasnima Mahjabin, Senior Scientific Officer, BIRTAN. The presentation showed that BIRTAN is working for SDG Goal-2, end hunger, achieve food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. BIRTAN is conducting training on food based applied nutrition to scale up nutritional knowledge through all over Bangladesh emphasised the vulnerable people as male and female farmers, fisherman, small scale businessman. It also conducts training on adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons which has the potential to increase nutrition knowledge and impact stunting and wasting which address the SDG target specially 2.1 and 2.2.

Second presentation ‘Commercialization of Biofortified Crops’ was delivered by Md. Abul Bashir Ahmed Chowdhury, Project Manager, CBC, GAIN. On his presentation he focused on the Zinc’s essential for growth and development. Bangladesh has already introduced biofortified zinc rice varieties for example BRRI dhan62, 72, 74, 84, BINA dhan84, Bangabandhu dhan100. He mentioned that considering the present status of zinc deficiency in Bangladesh, Biofortified crops can be vehicle to prevent zinc deficiency and government can take initiative to inclusion of zinc rice through public procurement system, also government can take initiative to distribute zinc rice/ biofortified crops through social safety net program.

Third presentation was delivered by Md. Munirul Islam, Joint Secretary (SDG Cell), Prime Minister’s Office. He showed the overall SDG achievement of Bangladesh. He mentioned that Bangladesh government is doing best for achieving SDG goals, still there are many

Fourth and final presentation was delivered by Md. Ruhul Amin Talukdar, Additional Secretary (ppc wing), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). He emphasized on necessary research which should be done by BIRTAN for example: prevent stunting, desirable dietary pattern, calorie intake, food security, minimum dietary diversity for women and children. Moreover, he mentioned that in Bangladesh we have to increase the research on bio-fortified nutritional crops. There are different research organizations which are already working for high value crops so we can conduct more baseline survey and introduce these variety in field level.

Chief Guest of the occasion Md. Sayedul Islam, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture has said, Ministry of Agriculture is leading organization for achieving SDG goal-2, so it is our challenge to ensure safe and nutritious food for such a huge population. BIRTAN has to take leading role to address situation. BIRTAN is conducting applied nutrition training at the grass root level, so they have to expand research work and transfer the result into root level beneficiaries.

The discussant of the workshop were Dr. SM Mustafizur Rahman, Line Director, National Nutrition Services, Dr. Zubaida Nasrin, Director General, Bangladesh National Nutrition Council, Dr. Md. Shajahan Kabir, Director General, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI).



BIRTAN provided applied nutrition training and food items to the flood affected people of Sunamganj



Poultry Shed for research at BIRTAN head office



Presenting Radio talks at Bangladesh Betar, Sylhet Station by BIRTAN's official.

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