

# **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

FOR

**PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION IN PROVIDING TECHNICAL  
SUPPORT SERVICES**

BETWEEN

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION (DAE)**

Ministry of Agriculture  
Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Khamarbari, Farmgate, Dhaka- 1215

AND

**PALLI KARMA-SAHAYAK FOUNDATION (PKSF)**

PKSF Bhaban, Plot: E- 4/B,  
Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

*19<sup>th</sup>* January 2021

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## RATIONALE

The Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh has placed agricultural sector as a pillar for achieving income growth, poverty reduction and food security, and has worked to extend finance for higher productivity and diversity of agriculture. However, access to agricultural finance and technical support services for modernization of agriculture and improvement of productivity are still inadequate among the small and marginal farmers who compose almost 84% of the total farming population. In addition, it is essential to improve the agricultural technologies and practices of farmers such as management of seeds, soil, fertilizer, pesticide, irrigation etc. to prevent the potential loss of productivity.

**Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)** has vision for implementing environment friendly safe and sustainable, appropriate productive agriculture activities, considering ensuring food security with an aim of commercializing agriculture so that socio-economic development get accelerated along with natural resources remain safe guarded. DAE also has a mission to increase knowledge of technology and capacity so that sustainable and profitable crop production can be ensured and as a result socio-economic development takes place, through providing skilled, effective, decentralized, local based, demand-driven integrated agriculture extension services to all class of farmers. Services are provided through eight wings such as- i. Administrative and Finance Wing, ii. Field Service Wing, iii. Field Crop Wing, iv. Horticulture Wing, v. Plant Protection Wing, vi. Plant Quarantine Wing, vii. Training Wing and viii. Planning, Project Implementation & ICT Wing. Thus, the DAE is committed to the continued development of agriculture in order to maintain food supplies for the growing population, provide income and employment for rural people and protect the environment

**Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)**, an apex development organization, was established by the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) in May 1990, for sustainable poverty reduction through employment generation. In the beginning of its operations in 1990, PKSF set the goal of creating self-employment opportunities in the rural off-farm sector and adopted the strategy of promoting a credit programme for attaining this goal. PKSF's present financing programme includes the moderate poor, ultra-poor, micro entrepreneurs, marginal and small farmers; members of these poverty groups are offered customized services. Enabling the poor to come out from the low productivity trap, PKSF has integrated capacity building, technology transfer, value chain development and other technical services in its development programme. PKSF reshaped its core goal as "establishing human dignity", instead of limiting its efforts towards achieving economic freedom only and started undertaking new programmes for attaining this goal. To achieve the sustainable development process in Bangladesh by ensuring food and nutrition security for an over-growing population, PKSF is providing appropriate financing and technical services to farming community through its Agriculture Unit and Fisheries & Livestock Unit.

৯. “দেশপ্রেমের শপথ নিঃ, দুর্নীতিকে বিদায় দিন”



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WHEREAS, Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) has the capacity and national responsibility to increase, sustain and diversify agricultural production through technical support and technology transfer.

WHEREAS, Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) has long history of providing finance for farm and non-farm investment through its Partner Organizations (POs) to marginal and small farmers, women and youth for achieving its ultimate goal of 'poverty alleviation through employment generation'.

WHEREAS, Agriculture Unit of PKSF is being implemented in participation of its POs in different AEZs of Bangladesh.

WHEREAS, providing technical support services to the end borrowers is not a regular activity for most of the POs and POs lack adequate technical manpower to provide quality technical support services to the farmers effectively.

WHEREAS, PKSF and DAE wish to jointly and collaboratively work on Agriculture Unit of PKSF for the purpose of providing and maintaining quality technical services to the end borrowers of POs, and thereby help small and marginal farmers diversify cropping and raise productivity as well as income.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

#### ARTICLE- I: SCOPE OF COOPERATION

The scope of cooperation and collaboration between PKSF and DAE under this MoU shall include the following areas:

1. Entire geographical areas of Bangladesh where both DAE and PKSF works;
2. All crops relevant to both PKSF and DAE;
3. Strengthening technical capacity of the officials and staff of PKSF and its POs;
4. Strengthening technical capacity of the farmers of PKSF POs;
5. Exchanging information and training materials;
6. Smooth communication and consultation between two parties both for exchanging relevant information and dissemination of new technologies.

#### ARTICLE- II: AREAS OF COOPERATION

##### 2.1 Responsibilities of DAE

DAE will-

1. assist PKSF and its POs in providing technical services for crop production and crop diversification;
2. provide technical assistance to PKSF, its POs and organized farmers in conducting training, demonstrations and in introduction of new technologies on agriculture;
3. provide relevant resource persons and necessary logistics (such as training

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- venue, conference room, dormitory etc.) according to the govt. financial rates for conducting training courses on agriculture organized by PKSf and its POs;
4. involve PKSf, its POs and organized farmers in relevant extension activities, training and mechanization programme of DAE;
  5. share relevant location-specific technologies with PKSf and its POs;
  6. involve PKSf and its POs in relevant seminars/workshops on agricultural technology and policy issues organized by DAE.

## 2.2 Responsibilities of PKSf

PKSf will-

1. collaborate with DAE in extending different agricultural technologies and knowledges in working areas of PKSf's PO;
2. collaborate with DAE in establishing demonstration farm in the working areas of PKSf's PO;
3. invite DAE personnel in agricultural programme planning of POs and in consultation meeting with organized farmers;
4. invite DAE in relevant seminars/workshops on agricultural technology and policy issues organized by PKSf.

## 2.3 Responsibility of both parties

1. A Joint Working Committee formed by the officials of PKSf and DAE will review the activities of MOU six monthly and take necessary measures to make it effective. This Joint Working Committee meeting will be held both at the Head office of PKSf and DAE alternatively after every six months.
2. Both the party will perform other duties if necessary in consultation with each other.

## ARTICLE- III: EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MOU

This MoU will be effective from the date of its signing and shall remain valid for five years and such other date as may be agreed up on between DAE and PKSf. To keep in loop if both parties agreed, duration of this MoU can be extended by informing Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). The MOU may be terminated when one of the parties notifies the other in writing of this intension to terminate the MoU, in which case the MoU will terminate three months from the date of such notification.

## ARTICLE- IV: AMENDMENT OF THE MOU

The MOU may be amended from time to time as and when necessary up on mutual agreement by both the parties.

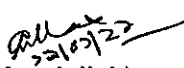
## ARTICLE- V: FORCE MAJEURE


If at any time during the course of this MOU, it becomes impossible for the either party to perform any of their obligations for the reasons or force majeure, that party shall promptly notify the other in writing of the existence of such force majeure. The party giving notice thereby relieved from such obligations as long as *Force Majeure* persists.

৯. “দেশপ্রেমের শপথ নিম্ন, দুর্নীতিকে বিদায় দিন”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereunto have affixed their signatures on the dates and at the places indicated below-

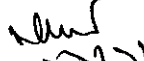
Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)      Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

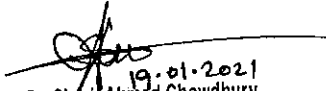
  
(Md. Asadullah)  
Director General  
Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)  
Date: 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2021  
Place: Dhaka

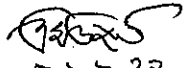
  
(Golam Touhid)  
Deputy Managing Director  
Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)  
Date: 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2021  
Place: Dhaka


Witness:

Witness:

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শ্রীনিবাস দেবনাথ  
পরিচালক  
পরিচালনা, প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়ন ও আইসিটি ডায়.  
কৃষি সম্প্রদায়ের অধিদপ্তর  
খামারবাড়ি, ঢাকা।

1.   
19.01.2021  
Dr. Sharif Ahmed Chowdhury  
General Manager (Programme)  
Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

2.   
১৯.১.২০২১  
Md. Abdul Jalil  
Deputy Chief  
Planning, PI & ICT Wing  
Dept. of Agricultural Extension  
Khamarbari, Dhaka-1215

2.   
19.01.2021  
Dr. M. A. Haider  
Manager (Programme)  
Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)