

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

for

Scientific and Technical Collaboration in Rice and
Rice Based Farming Technology Extension

between

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)
Bangladesh

and

The International Rice Research Institute
Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines

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Memorandum of Understanding

for

Scientific and Technical Collaboration in Rice and Rice Based Farming Technology Extension

between

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), Bangladesh

and

The International Rice Research Institute, the Philippines

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is between Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) of Bangladesh with the principal office at PKSF Bhaban, Plot: E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh hereinafter referred to as "PKSF" or individually as "Party" or "party" or with IRRI as "Parties" or parties", and the International Rice Research Institute, a non-profit, autonomous, international organization, with headquarters at the Municipality of Los Baños, Province of Laguna, Republic of the Philippines, and hereinafter referred to as "IRRI" or individually as "Party" or "party" or with PKSF as "Parties" or "parties";

WHEREAS, Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation of Bangladesh has long history of providing microfinance 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, the International Rice Research Institute is the world's premier research organization dedicated to reducing poverty and hunger through rice science; improving the health and welfare of rice farmers and consumers; and protecting the rice-growing environment for future generations;

WHEREAS, the collaborative activities would be greatly benefited from PKSF's emphasis on investment in agriculture for enabling impact and development of capacity;

WHEREAS, PKSF and IRRI have mutual interest in fostering further collaboration and decide that there is a need to have the MoU under which detailed work plans can be developed and implemented;

NOW THEREFORE, PKSF and IRRI, inspired by their common objectives to further promote the dissemination of new technologies on rice and rice-based farming systems from seed through

to market, have entered into this MoU under the terms and conditions set forth in the following articles;

Article-I AREAS OF COLLABORATION

PKSF and IRRI decide to explore possibilities and develop cooperation in identifying, validating and rapid out-scaling of promising technologies on crop and nutrient management with microfinance support to rice farmers and in the development of social enterprises with private sector, capacity development of technical staff of PKSf and its Partner Organizations (POs) as well as concerned farmers, piloting ICT tools and techniques, developing network with NARS agencies and work jointly in the field with farmers within areas where PKSf POs are working.

The scale of collaboration between PKSf and IRRI will be determined from time to time by a joint evaluation of PKSf's needs and interests in collaboration, IRRI's capacity and effectiveness for such collaboration, and by the scopes available in different regions of Bangladesh for the implementation of the joint collaborative program.

It is understood that specific PKSf-IRRI collaborative activities for implementation under this MoU will be as defined in the work plan developed and approved in accordance with Article IV hereof.

Article- II RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY

A. IRRI:

Subject to available resources and as mutually decided upon, IRRI, will:

1. Provide and update regular information on the availability of rice-based technologies in IRRI and assist in the collaborative research and extension program of PKSf;
2. Arrange capacity building training and related activities for technical staff of PKSf and its POs to be informed and knowledgeable of technology options on rice and rice based farming systems for which microfinance supports are extended;
3. Provide support and assistance to PKSf in the establishment of linkage with other Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Centers and National Agricultural Research and Extension System (NARES) agencies;
4. Support for the establishment of monitoring and evaluation system for technology dissemination programs of PKSf; and

5. Share data on joint operation and development of agriculture and rural economy utilizing the services of PKSf and IRRI.

B. PKSf:

Subject to available resources and as mutually decided upon, PKSf, will:

1. Participate in international research conference, workshop, training programs, and collaborative work sponsored by IRRI, with its technical officers and POs;
2. Facilitate the transfer of rice-based technologies to marginal and small farmers through its Partner Organizations in order to promote the collaborative programs;
3. Share data on joint operation and development of agriculture and rural economy of the initiatives taken under this MoU,
4. Ensure that all joint research, training and/or extension activities related to this MoU are properly recorded with the IRRI Bangladesh Office based at Dhaka as well as with PKSf;

Article- III
OWNERSHIP AND PUBLICATION OF RESULTS OF COOPERATIVE
RESEARCH

Both parties decide that

1. Results of collaborative research and development, field trial and extension activities will be jointly published in the public interest as mutually decided upon;
2. It is also decided that all outcomes of PKSf-IRRI joint development activities including all intellectual property right (IPR) will be jointly owned by the parties and, such, will be available to IRRI and PKSf and end-users.

Article- IV
WORK PLAN

This MoU will be implemented through a work plan to be developed jointly in accordance with the priorities of PKSf and IRRI and on the basis of a mutually decided upon cooperative activities. Such work plan will specifically describe the joint activities to be carried out and will be consistent with the priorities and development agenda identified and decided upon by work plan meetings of IRRI and PKSf staff. In the event of conflict between the provisions of the Work Plan and the provisions of the MOU, the provisions of the MOU will prevail.

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Article- V
AMENDMENTS

The parties may, by mutual consent in writing, modify as per provisions of this MoU.


Article- VI
EFFECTIVITY

This MoU will take effect on the date the authorized signatory of the last party affixes his/her signature, and will remain valid for five (5) years unless sooner terminated when one of the parties notifies the other in writing of its intension to terminate the MoU, in which case the MoU will terminate two months from the date of such notification. This MoU may be further renewed or extended upon mutual agreement between the parties, which will be made not later than six months prior to the termination date.

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

For the
Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

For the
International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)


Md. Abdul Karim
Managing Director


Matthew Morell
Director General

Date: 18 January 2017

Date: 14 December 2016

Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Place: Los Baños, Laguna