WELCOME TO

Presentation on
SAARC Regional Initiative
On
Agricultural Mechanization

Presented by:
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Rural Development Academy (RDA), Bogra, Bangladesh
South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
200 km from Capital Dhaka
16 km from Bogra Town

Total Area
120 acres

Office & Residence
40 acres

Demonstration Farm
80 acres
Rural Development Academy (RDA), Bogra, Bangladesh
RDA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY, BOGRA
ESTABLISHED IN 1974

Our Mandate

- Training
- Research
- Advisory Services
- Action Research
International Technology Fair

• Sharing of Knowledge through Technology Fair
SAARC Secretariat at Kathmandu Nepal
The Heads of the States or governments established the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on the 8th day of December 1985. Seven south Asian Nations, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, The Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka were the founder members of SAARC. Later Afghanistan became the eighth member country in 2007.
SAARC Activities

- Agriculture
- Communications
- Education, Culture, Sports
- Environment
- Transport
- Women in Development
- etc
Bangladesh
Pakistan
## General Information about SAARC Countries

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<td>Afghanistan</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>2.3 (2004-06)</td>
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<td>3.08</td>
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<td>Sri Lanka</td>
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<td>3.0 (2005-06)</td>
<td>23,479</td>
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**Source:** World Development Indicators 2006 & BBS of Respective Countries
The SAARC Agricultural Centre (SAC) originally started its journey in 1989 as SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC).

The Centre started functioning with a mandate for information management, primarily in the field of agriculture and allied disciplines.
Promotion of agricultural Research and Development (R&D) as well as technology dissemination initiatives for sustainable agricultural development and poverty alleviation in the region
Contribution of Agricultural Mechanization

- Saving in seed 15-20%
- Saving in fertilizer 15-20%
- Saving in time 20-30%
- Reduction in labours 20-30%
- Increase in cropping intensity 5-20%
- Reduction in drudgery of farm workers especially that of women
- Higher productivity 10-15%

Source: Nawab Ali, 2006 (Apecam)
Supply Chain of Agricultural Machinery

Channel 1: Imported agro tools, engine & spare parts channel
Channel 2: Agro tools production channel
Channel 3: Spare parts production channel

Retailing
Wholesaling
Machining
Casting
Trading
Importing

Importer: Pig iron, Hard coke, Silicon, Ship breaking scraps, Furnace oil etc.

Trader: Iron scrap, ship breaking scrap, Pig iron, Hard coke, Silicon, furnace oil etc.

Foundry cum machine shop

Integrated spare parts producer

Spare parts producer (machining)

Integrated Agro tools producer

Agro tools producer (machining)

Wholesaler : Agro tools, Spare parts, engine & engine spare parts

Retailer: Agro tools, Spare parts, engine & engine spare parts

Importer: Agro tools, raw materials, spare parts

Source: Nawab Ali, 2006 (Apecam)
Service Market Model

Facilitator (Govt., Donor, Agency)

- Dialogue

Specialist Service Provider (SSP)

- Dialogue
- Capacity building on operation, maintenance and management of machines
- Provide training to new entrepreneurs

Agri-machinery producers and sellers

- Indicate taking over the role of SSP
- Dialogue to negotiate project

NGOs

- Finance
- Capacity building on operation, maintenance and management of machines
- Provide training to new entrepreneurs

Entrepreneurs/Custom-hire Service Providers

- Finance & group formation

Gender & Pro-poor Growth

Commercial Banks

Entrepreneurs/Custom-hire Service Providers

- Dialogue

Service seekers (Commercial & non-commercial farmers)

Dialogue to negotiate project

Provide training to new entrepreneurs
Importance of Farm Mechanization in SAARC Region

- The farm mechanization has been well-received world over as one of the important elements of modernizing agriculture.
- Agricultural machines also ensure timeliness of farm operations and increase work output per unit time.
- Mechanization is associated not only with diverse socio-economic and agro-climatic conditions of the region but also with sustainable policy environment taking into consideration of public, private partnership.
- Keeping the above in mind, SAARC Agriculture Centre has organized a three-day workshop on “Farm Mechanization for Small Holder Agriculture in SAARC Countries” at Bhopal, India to clarify the problems and opportunities of the mechanization in the member countries and to formulate appropriate strategies.
Constraints to adoption/popularization of machinery

- Lack of knowledge and skill for efficient use, maintenance and repair of machinery at users and traders level.
- Increasing cost of machines and fuel (diesel) and seasonal shortage of fuel and lubricants in the rural areas.
- Unavailability of affordable efficient and quality harvesting machines for smallholdings as the farmers face labour shortage at harvesting time.
- Absence of adequate design and fabrication guidelines, testing and other technical facilities for small workshops.
- Absence of product standards and quality certification of all machineries.
- Limited fund to conduct farm machinery research at farm level.
- Lack of effective linkages among researchers, manufacturers, farmers, and extension workers.
Suggestions

✓ SAARC may take policy for up scaling and modernization of the country based manufacturing workshops to produce precise agricultural machinery;

✓ Provide on-job training for the mechanics and technicians to develop their skill, efficiency as well as production of quality machinery

✓ SAARC can take initiatives to formulate policy in ministry level among the member states to make the successful machinery of one country available to the other states in duty and tax free cost as well as subsidized rate.

✓ Production of newsletters, bulletins, booklet, journal, technical publications, audio-visual documentaries on successful farm machinery and circulate among the SAARC member states.

Cont……
✓ The individual countries can arrange operators training in massive scale for the end users to make them acquaint with modern machinery.
✓ Develop regional policies and strategies to educate their farmers and enforcing the aligned extension department exists in government and non-government level with sufficient budget allocation and logistics.
✓ Establish automated library services and on-line services and develop institutional linkages with relevant institutions.
✓ Undertaking activities leading to exchange of the best practices for adaptation and enhancing capacities of the agricultural communities of the SAARC countries.
✓ SAARC may create a regional platform of Agricultural Mechanization taking experience from SAARC forum.