

Workshop on Gender and Nutrition

Kansas State University
11 August 2016



**ADM Institute for the
Prevention of Postharvest Loss**
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

FtF Postharvest Loss Reduction Innovation Lab (PHLIL) - Bangladesh

SHAHANA BEGUM

**Gender Specialist
PHLIL & ASMIH Project**



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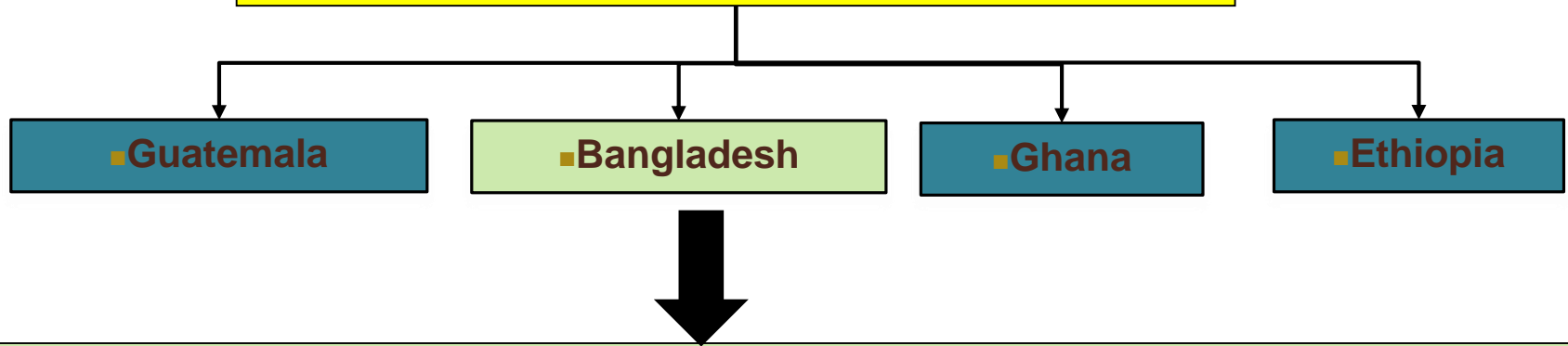
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■ FtF Innovation Lab for PHL Reduction



■ Sub-Projects

- Baseline survey of mycotoxin in Paddy
- Appropriate Paddy Drying Technologies
- Appropriate Paddy Storage Technologies
- Gender status in postharvest activities in Bangladesh

■ Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Postharvest Loss Reduction - Management



■ Principal Investigator and Director : Dr. John Leslie

■ Managing Technical Director : --

■ In Country Project Coordinators from USA

■ Guatemala
■ (Dr. Campabadal)

■ Bangladesh
■ (Dr. Kalita and Dr. Smith)

■ Ghana
■ (Dr. Opit)

■ Ethiopia
■ (Dr. Subramanyam)

■ Country Leader (Dr. Md. Monjurul Alam)

■ Principle Investigator
■ Dr. Md. Ayub Ali
■ (BLSM)

■ Principle Investigator
■ Dr. Chayan Kumer Saha (Drying)

■ Principle Investigator
■ Dr. Md. Abdul Awal
■ (Storage)

■ Shahana Begum
■ Gender Specialist

■ Co-Investigator
■ Dr. Md. Abdul Momin

■ Co-Investigator
■ Dr. Md. Rostom Ali

■ PhD and MS Students

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■ BLSM –Base Line Survey on Mycotoxin



Study

on



Gender Status in Post Harvest Activities of paddy in PHLIL project Bangladesh

SHAHANA BEGUM
Gender Specialist
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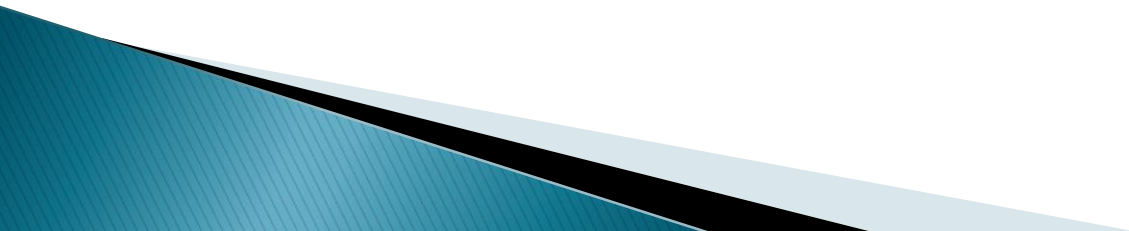


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Progress till date

- ▶ Study on Gender Status in Post Harvest Activities of paddy in PHLIL project, Bangladesh.
- ▶ Study findings analysis and preparation of report.
- ▶ Sharing and validation of report findings with various stakeholders:
 - Project Team
 - Larger audience:
(academicians, scientists, research students from BAU, BARI, BIRRI and farmers/lead farmers through the annual workshop)
- International experts of KSU and ADM through workshop.
- Beneficiaries/farmers and local key stakeholders through workshop.
Training with the farmers on gender issues in agriculture/post harvest losses in two study areas.

Sharing of study findings



Overall objective:

To Assess ;

- rural women farmers' roles and participation in post harvest activities.
- the current status of women empowerment.
- factors contribute in PH losses and women empowerment.
- effect of PH losses on women's life including nutritional status.

MAP OF BANGLADESH



- **Study Area:**

- **Two district:** *Mymensingh and Jessore.*

- **Four villages** from each district.

-

Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)

5 DOMAINS OF THE WEAI

1. Decision making over production;

Access to knowledge and information over production.

2. Access to productive resources; Women's Ownership, Access and Control over resources.(Land, produces and other resources).

3. Control over the use of income

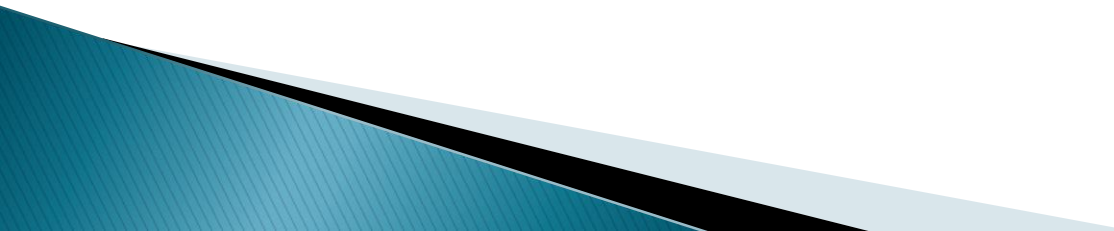
4. Group participation and leadership in the community

Participation and Leadership in Community Groups and Organizations

5. Time use : Time Dedicated to Paid and Unpaid Labor

All addressed across the study report

Lesson Learning

- ▶ Men and women are not aware about the importance of women's contribution in agricultural activities.
 - ▶ Addressing gender issues will enhance women's participation/empowerment.
 - ▶ Increasing women's knowledge, capacity on use of technology will reduce post harvest losses.
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Study Area & Methodology

Methodology:

Focus Group Discussion

**Four FGD in each district:
(Men, Women and mixed)**



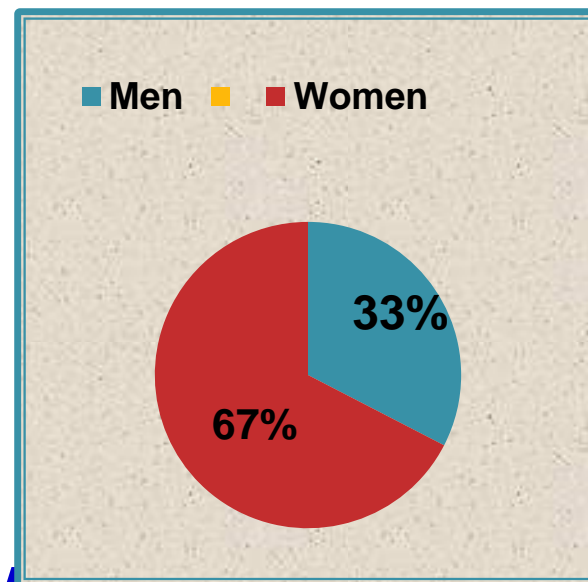
▶ MAP of Bangladesh **replace the map**



▶ Total **89 participants** (44 from Mymensingh and 45 from Jessore).

▶ **29 men and 60 women**

percentage wise

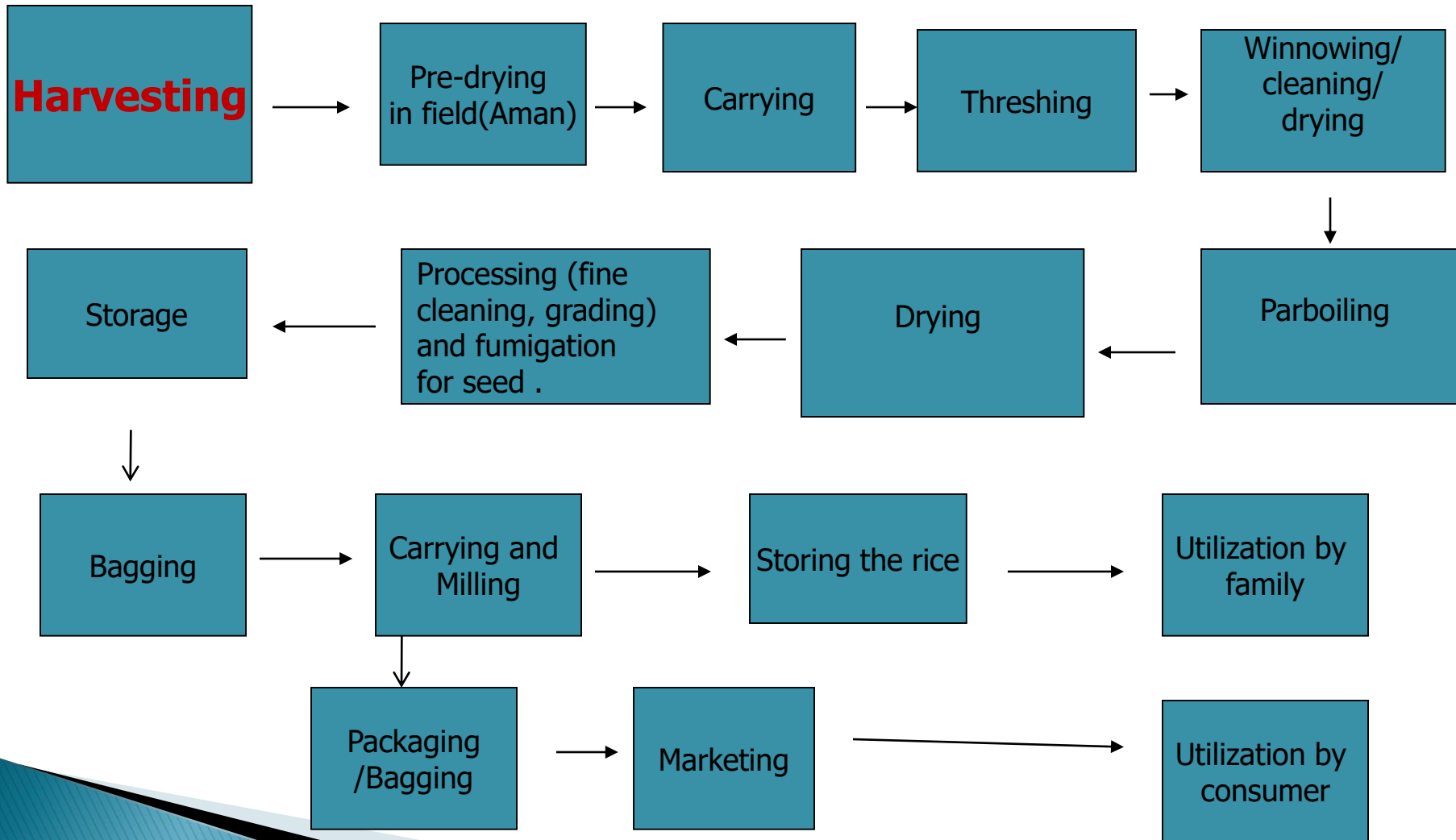


Study period: July -August 2015

Results Key Findings



Post harvest flow chart



PH Activities	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Hours spend by women per day
cutting (Boro) (Mym)	Y	*	*		4-5 hr per day for cutting (Boro) from 8 am – 4/5 pm with 1 hr break
cutting(Amon) (Mym)	Y				5-6 hr. per day with 1 hr break from 8 am to 4 pm.
re-drying in field(Amon)	Y	X			5-6 hr. per day with 1 hr break from 8 am to 4 pm.
carrying home from field (Boro)	Y	X	*		2-3 hours. (depends on distance)
carrying home from field (Amon)	Y	X	*		5-6 hours. following day
threshing	Y	*	*	*	Full family if needed.
winnowing/cleaning/	*	X		*	Whole day as long as sun is available
boiling	*	X	*	*	8 hours /D from 4 am to 12 noon or 4 pm to 12 am. 15-20 maund paddy can be boiled in 4- 6 hours.
drying	*	X		*	Time requirement for Boro was 8 hours/20 maund x 3 days and for Amon 7/8 hours/20 maund x 7-8 days. Amon drying needs 2-3 days at field level.
processing, fine cleaning, grading) and fumigation for seed.	*	X		*	One woman can clean 8 maund of paddy by 4 hours from morning to afternoon.
storing	*	X		*	Three people can store 10 maund rice in 30 – 45 minutes
packing /bagging	Y	*		*	20-30 maund can be packed by 2 people in 2-3 hours
carrying and Milling	Y				6-10 maund paddy in 2hours time can be taken and Milled .
winnowing		X		*	Morning to afternoon -one women can clean 3 maund paddy/rice by 3-4 hours
storing rice	*	X	*	*	3 people can store 10 maund rice in 30-45 minutes
bagging	y	*			
transportation to Market	Y	*			2/3 hours for a people in a day
marketing	Y				Half day. Time depends on the distances

■ 11. 1Maund = 37.5 kg.

Analysis:

Y = key performer men	= 9 tasks
X = key performer women	= 8 tasks
* = supporting role men	= 4 tasks
* = supporting role women	= 4 tasks
* = supporting role boy	= 5 tasks
* = supporting role girl	= 7 tasks

Women's time spent

Lowest 4-5 hrs to 8-9 hrs.

Key findings --- Gender roles/constraints

Generally women are not involved in on-farm agricultural activities i.e **harvesting both areas.**

- ▶ **Even lower in Mymensingh than in Jessore.**
- ▶ **In Jessore in one village – ‘Horina’ approximate 60%-70%** women participants were involved in on-farm paddy cutting on their own farm (Non-Muslim).
- ▶ Few worked to other’s farms as paid labor.

Women's involvement are higher and significant in **home based** PH operations.

At **PH stages** - Men and women do almost equal number of works.

Carrying of paddy from field to home

Mymensingh - done by both women and men

Jessore - generally by men.

Women can do the carrying in small scale

**Only few (5%) women worked to other's farms as paid labor.
Social and religious barriers...**

Gender Issues in agriculture

Men - women get benefit differently.

Inequality between men & women.

Division of labor high – Women.

Women pay high price-

Malnourished

Food insecurity

Low productivity

Less wages

Lower status in society

Women, poorest of the

Effects



Low participation

Low decision making power

Less access to
Knowledge Information,
trng
Tech. Inputs
water /irrigation
Market

No control/ownership over Ag produces/
resources.
poverty

Unrecognized
un/less paid labor

Low nutrition

No income sharing with women

Less negotiation skill
Low voice to speak in public



WOMEN AND TECHNOLOGY

▶ Farm mechanization

• Men are normally responsible for agricultural works which are mechanized or associated with more income-generating potential.

▶ Women use traditional

▶ technologies

▶  labor and time consuming.

There are no or hardly any women friendly technology.





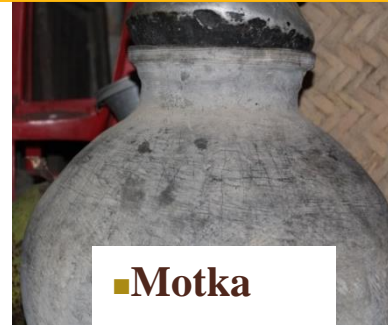
■ Paddy Storage Technologies used by farmers



■ Dole



■ Plastic drum



■ Motka



■ Plastic bag



■ Plastic bag



■ Auri



■ Gola



■ Motka

➤ **Dole (47.6%) is most commonly used storage container**

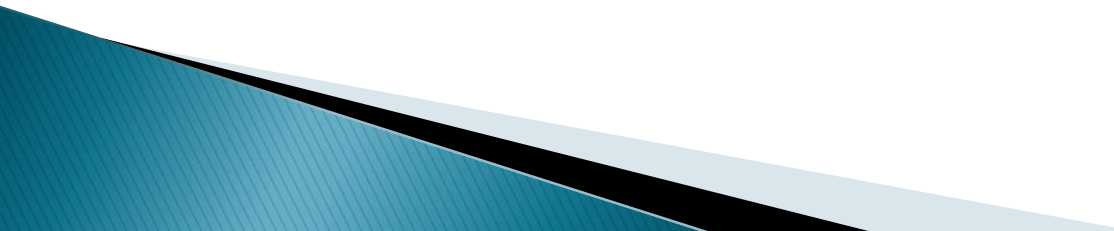
➤ **Plastic bags are becoming popular among the farmers due to its low cost, light weight and availability .** (Source: Base line surveurcesy PHLIL)

key findings (Contd.)

Key problems that contribute to post harvest losses:

- ▶ Inefficient/poor handling and processing methods/technology
- ▶ Limited drying place/facility
- ▶ Lack of women friendly technology
- ▶ Lack of storing spaces/modern facilities
- ▶ Lack of training in technology use for women.
- ▶ **Weather:** Excess of rainfall in monsoon, insufficient sunlight in winter, nature dependency
- ▶ Excess of insects / rats, during harvesting season

Key problems cont.

- ▶ **Extension services.**
 - ▶ Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) is the Government's key department for extension services.
 - ▶ Other NGO/Donor supported project- limited
 - ▶ Women have no access to them and the extension services do not reach to grass root level.
- 

key findings(contd.)

Women's workload

- ▶ Increase to double load
- ▶ Family members help occasionally
- ▶ Men are seldom, if at all, involved in household tasks i.e taking care of children).
- ▶ Reproductive role

????? Women want to fit within the time box

- ▶ prepare easy /less time consuming meal
- ▶ eat less as they do not get much time to eat.
- ▶ remain sleeps less, awoke early in the morning during especially during parboiling.

key findings(Contd.)

Access to information, technology and training

Gender inequalities exist

Women has no / less access on information, extension services and improved PH technology (drying and storing)

Extension services first goes to men.

Extension service providers are generally men.

- ▶ No women has received any training on modern technology of PH management.

Women's decision making & ownership of resources

- ▶ Thik korte hobe
- ▶ Only men or men-women made decision **on use of land**
- ▶ Men makes decision to all these. **(Mymensingh)**
Joint decision on purchase of land and other uses (5%).
- ▶ No decision making by woman (or wife) on **use of technology** for PH harvest tasks



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Women's decision making (contd)

- ▶ Usually men make the decision on what prices the paddy has to be sold (male and mixed group).
- ▶ Jointly (few).
- ▶ The sold money is primarily used for family/children expenses.

Difference in wage rate for men and women farm laborers exist

Mymensingh:

- ▶ Only, 1 woman was found worked as paid labor and paid BDT.500
- ▶ The rate for male farmer for same type of work will be BDT 600- 700.
- ▶ **Jessore:** Pay rate for women varies from BDT 200 for half day and BDT300 for full day
- ▶ For men, the rate is BDT 300 to 350 for half day and BDT 600-650. for full day.

Reason / perception : when women works they need two person to carry the paddy to home, while for men, one

Man's Attitude Women's Problems that contribute to PH losses

- ▶ If women would have machines for drying paddy that would help them a lot.

Ownership of land

Mymensingh: 10 women were found having own land.

either inherited from father (3), given by husband(4)
own purchased from jewelry selling (1)
only 2 women purchased by their own income

Reasons for women not having any land

- ▶ husband do not have enough land to give
- ▶ husband has not gave them yet, may be will give in future.
- ▶ husband cannot manage transferring fees
- ▶ husband/fathers family land has not yet been distributed

Jessore-the scenario was different

Three FGD women participants were non-Muslim (Hindu),

As per Hindu law, women are not entitled for fathers property.

Women were found very poor

Having little financial ability to buy any land by themselves.

Among Muslim participants, out of 6 only 1 woman has 50 decimal land. (inherited from her parents).

Others - poor and with no property of their own.

Marketing: **Both locations**

- ❑ No women sell at market.
- ❑ Women sale at household level.
- ❑ Low price (***coz absence of information about market price or the buyers know her urgency***).

However, women play a key role in the process of preparation of the goods for marketing such as loading in the sacks, cleaning, measuring.

Ability to afford Nutritional food

- ▶ The situation is quite better in both areas.
(In Mymensing all the women and in Jessore all members can afford 3 times full meal per day for entire family throughout the year)
- ▶ Only 3men (M) can not afford it for three times for entire year.
- ▶ Those who can not afford, skip one meal and have 2 meals (rice) only.
- ▶ ***In such case women are the one who has to sacrifice more.***

Ability to afford Nutritional food

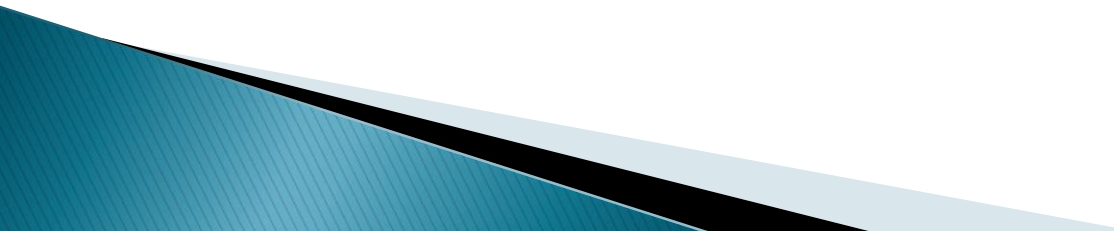
- Supply of nutritional food to especial group (i.e children, pregnant women, elderly women) -

✓ most of the women and some of the men participants can afford it.(M)

✓ Only few female and mixed group could not afford it even though they wanted it.

✓ Some do it irregularly- female group and male group.

Generally for pregnant women - family members would not like it even they can afford it.(social attitudes)

- ▶ *Is there any reason that family eats more in the harvest period?*
 - ▶
 - ▶ The answer was 'No'. Rather the situation was reverse. During the harvesting days, they do not get enough time for marketing, cooking and eating properly.
- 

Women's Community Participation:

Mymensingh

- ▶ ***No community participation by women.***

only religious group i.e Talim - common to all groups.

- ▶ credit group i.e ASA, Palli Daridra Bimochon Karmo shuchi, GRAMOUS

- ▶ Mahila Parishad - Four women of mixed group are engaged they represent and deals women's legal issues in this group.

Jessore

women are members of various NGOs and groups, i.e. , Bangladesh Rural Advancement Cooperative (Brac),

Leadership:

- ▶ **90 % women in both locations** - very comfortable and confident in a meeting (where men and women are present and can take lead to raise their personal problems for family disputes)
- ▶ **Normally they resolve** within family first.
..they go to village Chairman and Member
- ▶ In Mymensing **one member**, who is the Union level leader of Mahila Nirjaton Protirodh Parisad (women torture resistance committee) said she takes lead for community cases.
- ▶ -

Recommendation

- ▶ **Gender & Technology:**
 - ▶ Research to invent innovative women friendly technology for drying and storing.
 - ▶ Introducing drying machine, moisture content measurement machines, new storage technology by the project component.
 - ▶ Introduce these technologies in a Self-Help Small group based approach.
- 

Recomm (Contd)

Gender role and capacity building:

- ▶ Training on ‘Gender in Agriculture’ for male and female to raising awareness about the importance of women’s role in PH operations.
- ▶ Training for female on PH operations.
- ▶ Conduct trainings on how to implement new technology and agricultural practices for the women.
- ▶ Policy guideline development to address the gender issues in project planning and designing.

▶ Monitoring & Evaluation



■ Future Activity plan

- Gender in Agriculture training curriculum development
- Incorporating Gender Issues in component wise training curriculum development.
- Developing gender indicators for Monitoring & Evaluation of gender problems and impacts on postharvest losses





Bangladesh: Two women and a man are drying paddy in a village of Bangladesh.
Photo by Mohammad Moniruzzaman



■ Sub-project - Appropriate Paddy Storage Technologies



■ Major Findings



■ Dole



■ Plastic drum



■ Motka
a



■ Plastic bag



■ Plastic bag



■ Au
ri



■ Gola



■ Motka

➤ Dole (47.6%) is most commonly used storage container

➤ Plastic bags are becoming popular among the farmers due to its low cost, light weight and availability

Thank You