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Subject : Submission of the Bangladesh Country GAFSP Grant Proposal on Diversified and Resilient Agriculture for Improved Food and Nutrition Security

I would like to convey my sincere thanks and heartiest gratitude to you for calling the 6th GAFSP 2021 proposal. Government of Bangladesh considers it an immense opportunity to foster partnership for agricultural development in the country. You would appreciate that, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB), organized a virtual consultative meeting on 11th July 2021 under the chairmanship of the Senior Secretary, MoA, following the Call. A series of discussions among the Ministry of Agriculture, IFAD Bangladesh and FAO Bangladesh were held to formalize the process and finally Ministry of Agriculture, IFAD and FAO agreed to form a drafting committee with technical support from IFAD and FAO to prepare a credible proposal.

Subsequently, three regional consultations on three different geographical regions: Char-land, Barendra and Coastal Regions were held on 16-18 August, 2021 where more than 270 participants including the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Barind Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA), Agricultural Universities, Development partners (IFAD, FAO & GAIN) and a number of private organizations participated. Finally, the proposal drafting committee finalised the draft proposal on "Diversified and Resilient Agriculture for Improved Food and Nutrition Security (DRAIFNS)" based on the findings of the consultations.

On behalf of the Local Consultative Group for Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development (LCG-AFSRD), I am pleased to validate that development and submission of this proposal was (i) elaborately discussed at the special meeting of the LCG-AFSRD on 11th July 2021, and (ii) the proposal aligns with the policy and program priorities of MoA, IFAD and FAO.

I highly acknowledge the continued support of GAFSP and look forward to having more engaged partnership for agricultural development in Bangladesh.

Yours Sincerely,

Md. Mesbahul Islam 8/9/2021
Senior Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture
and
Chair, LCG-AFSRD

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