

Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC)
Between
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan
and
Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan and Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, (hereinafter referred to individually as a “Participant” and collectively as the “Participants”;

RECOGNIZING the importance of cooperation between Japan and Bangladesh;

AWARE of the need to strengthen bilateral friendly relations existing between the two countries through the development of cooperation to facilitate trade and investment in food and agriculture sector and inputs in achieving goals of sustainable food and nutritional security between Japan and Bangladesh;

CONSIDERING that through the development of cooperation, considerable advantages can be derived in promoting trade and investments, and that it will be of mutual benefit to the Participants;

Have reached the following consensus:

Paragraph I
Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as “MoC”) is to strengthen and expand the cooperation with a view to enhance agro-based business and attract investments, as decided by the Participants.

Paragraph II
Areas of Cooperation

The priority areas of cooperation are as follows:

1. Trade and investment in food and agriculture sector;
2. Technologies and innovation in food and agriculture sector;
3. Food security and climate change;
4. Any other as mutually decided by the Participants.

Paragraph III
Joint Agricultural Working Group

A Joint Agricultural Working Group (hereinafter referred to as “JAWG”) will be formed to provide guidance, review the progress of activities, projects and to facilitate cooperation under this MoC. Focal points for the Participants need to be determined to maintain regular communications. The JAWG will be held in person or in virtual manner as decided by the Participants.

Paragraph-IV
Human Resource Development

Joint activities will be determined by the Participants and implemented through mutually decided procedures. Training may be arranged to acquire knowledge in the field of agricultural research and development and farmer's livelihood improvement. Human resource development programmes such as graduate, doctoral and post-doctoral fellowship, study visit/tour, training, workshop of scientists and educationists could be initiated to share knowledge and expertise in the different fields of agriculture and related fields.

Paragraph V
Financial Obligation and Law Enforcement

In matters of exchange of relevant officials, study visit and visit of JAWG, the sending Participant will bear all costs, and the receiving Participant will provide necessary logistic arrangements.

Any intellectual property matters involved in the implementation of this MoC will be dealt with in accordance with the legislation of both countries and the applicable international conventions.

The Participants will protect information considered as confidential or protected from disclosure in accordance with their respective national laws unless otherwise mutually decided to make the information available to the third parties.

The confidentiality of documents and information provided will be maintained notwithstanding the termination of this MoC.

Paragraph VI
Scope of Application

All activities of the Participants under this MoC will be performed under their existing national laws. This MoC will not, in any way, affect the commitments of the Participants under existing bilateral agreements between Japan and Bangladesh.

Paragraph VII
Settlement of Dispute

Any dispute that may emerge between the two Participants relating to the implementation of this MoC will be settled amicably through direct consultations or diplomatic channels.

Paragraph VIII
Commencement and Termination

This MoC will commence on the date of signing and continue for a period of five (5) years. It will automatically be extended in every five (5) years unless either Participant notifies the other Participant in writing of the intention to terminate this MoC at least three (3) months before its termination. The Participants may revise all or a part of this MoC by mutual consent in writing. In case of termination of this MoC, the ongoing project will not be hampered.

Signed in Tokyo on 26th day of April, 2023 in two originals in English language. Each Participant retains an original copy of this MoC.

For the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan

For Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

NOMURA Tetsuro
Minister of Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries of Japan

H.E. Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque
Hon'ble Minister
Ministry of Agriculture