

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
LGED
and the
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

PRELUDE

LGED is implementing the Community Based Resource Management Project (hereinafter referred to as the Project) which seeks to increase the income of the landless and small and marginal farm holders in Sunamganj and the surrounding haors in a sustainable way. The joint IFAD/GOB aided project aims at increasing the incomes of the poor through five components, namely : (a) labour intensive infrastructure development; (b) fisheries development; (c) crop and livestock production; (d) provision of micro-finance and (e) the development of grass root institutional development.

In its implementation, the project would work closely with various Ministries and Government agencies in the project area. These include the DC and his staff, the UNO and his staff in each of the Upazilas, and the staff of the DAE, DOLS and DOF.

The project aims to assist the poor by facilitating the access of resources to the poor in particular the leases to the water bodies. The focus would be on the management of natural resources and the restoration of habitat with a view to increasing and sustaining all production systems, including fish, crops and livestock. In this context, the communities would be trained to manage their resources and undertake development-related initiatives to improve their lives. Habitat restoration measures include establishment of sanctuaries, creating facilities for community managed pisciculture in permanent water bodies and addressing the conflicts between rice and fish producers in the haors. In addition, the project would also encourage the communities to assist their less unfortunate members, especially indigent women. In this context, groups, particularly comprised of destitute women, will be given training and extension support to develop pond fish culture.

Therefore, a very close and effective coordination between the project, and DAE is necessary to establish and institutionalize the system and ensure coordinated delivery of services to the poor. DAE has the technical expertise and a functioning system throughout the country with sufficient number of skilled manpower that can assist in the implementation of the agricultural production sub-component of the project, which is entirely in within scope and responsibility of DAE. Therefore DAE can play a very important role in technology transfer and providing training support to the beneficiaries including destitute women and the landless of the sub-project area.

Now, as both the project and DAE are willing to cooperate with each other in training and technology transfer, a MOU is signed between LGED & DAE.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding entered into this 31st day of May, 2003 by and between :

The Department of Agricultural Extension (hereinafter referred to as "DAE") under the Ministry of Agriculture, is public organization and represented in this document by its Director General Mr. E.H, Khandker.

and

Local Government Engineering Department (hereinafter referred to as "LGED") under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operative, is a public organization and represented in this document by the Chief Engineer Mr. Md. Shahidul Hassan.

WITNESSETH that :

Whereas

- DAE has been assigned with the responsibility to increase, sustain and diversify agricultural production through research and technology transfer,
- The project's responsibility is to increase the income of the rural poor in the project area,
- The project and DAE, have agreed to enter into an understanding to cooperate in imparting training and providing technological support to the beneficiaries in the project area.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the aforestated premises the LGED and DAE mutually agree as follows :

I. SCOPE OF OPERATION

The programmes of technical support between the project and DAE will include, to the extent made possible by the projects finances, the following:

- (a) Information and publication exchange ;
- (b) Conducting research, training activities and workshops in crop production;
- (c) Technical advice and assistance as requested by the project, which fall within the objectives and jurisdiction of the project and within the scope and function of DAE.

II. TERM

The term of this understanding shall be for a period of 11 years from the date it is signed.

Either party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by written notice to the other party. This Memorandum of Understanding, however, will remain effective for 180 days from the date of issue of such notice.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PROJECT

1. The project and its employees will comply with all rules and regulation and will devote themselves diligently and vigilantly to support the provision of services by DAE to the beneficiaries.
2. The project shall interface with DAE in the development and design of training programmes and workshops.

3. The project will make physical arrangement for any training program to be conducted in the project area.
4. The project shall provide DAE with copies of all its publications relating to this project and findings of any research and adaptive trials undertaken.
5. The total training costs will be borne by the project.
6. The project will extend technological support and expertise to DAE as required.
7. The project will reimburse DAE for all transport and other costs, as permitted under the project documents, for assisting in the implementation of the project.

IV. **RESPONSIBILITIES OF DAE.**

1. DAE will provide qualified personnel in supporting the project.
2. DAE personnel will act as resource persons in the training programmes and workshops conducted for the beneficiaries and the target groups of the project.
3. DAE personnel will assist the project in conducting the PRAs and comment on the research programme proposed.
4. DAE will review the results of the research programme.
5. DAE staff will attend training on the proposed technologies to be promoted and assist the project in preparing and distributing the extension materials.
6. DAE personnel will support the project by promoting the technology at various demonstrations sites.
7. DAE personnel will impart training and advice to the project staff about any changes in Government procedures and policies.
8. DAE personnel will extend cooperation to the project staff for ensuring an atmosphere congenial to the development management of the resources in the project area.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have affixed their signatures on the date first written above.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION (DAE)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT (LGED)

BY :

BY :

(E.H. Khandker)
Director General

(Md. Shahidul Hassan)
Chief Engineer