



EAST-WEST SEED
FOUNDATION

KNOWLEDGE
TRANSFER

BANGLADESH - Q3

QUARTERLY REPORT

2023 (July - September)

.....



Kharif Season



Section 1

NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS



KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

In this quarter, 14 Community Farmer Facilitators (CFFs) joined the EWS-KT Bangladesh team from 8 upazilas (subdistricts). The role of CFFs is to assist Technical Field Officers in conducting training sessions and establishing semi-commercial demos and home gardens. In addition, applying their experience working with EWS-KT, CFFs act as farmer advisers in their area.



DIGITAL & OTHER

During this quarter, 80 Facebook posts were created, including videos, technical messages, Field Day coverage, and farmer stories. 137 new members joined the country Facebook group, and nearly 5,000 members are in the group now.



DEMONSTRATION PLOTS

During this quarter, outreach was above 3,100 farmers, and 14% were home garden farmers. For semi-commercial demos, the average land size and the number of crop varieties increased. In the home garden demos, female farmers grow safe vegetables without using chemical fertilizers and pesticides. If there are extra vegetables after family consumption, the home garden farmers sell some vegetables, earning small-scale profits.



HIGHLIGHT IMAGES



The EWS-KT Bangladesh team launched a Pesticide Selection Tool to promote the safe and judicious use of pesticides. The intended Pesticide Selection Tool user group is stakeholders who are supporting farmers with advice on pest management.



Newly joined CFFs having a practical training session in a demo field.



HIGHLIGHT IMAGES



Home garden farmer Bibi Fatema growing different crops in the home garden.


Section 2

DEMONSTRATION PLOTS

Distribution of Crops

Table 1: Demonstration plots managed by key farmers in this quarter.

Vegetable Crop	No. of Demos	Crop Variety	No. of Demos per Variety	Average Land Size (sq. m.)
Bitter Gourd	59	Palee Plus	57	374
		Dola Plus	1	
		Payel	1	
Bottle Gourd	18	Dotora Super	16	406
		Baula Green	1	
		Setara	1	
Pumpkin	16	Dorodi	13	298
		Pronoy Super	2	
		Piriti Super	1	
Tomato	15	Shukhi	14	265
		Durjoy	1	
Yard Long Bean	6	Summer Field	5	345
		Greenland	1	
Sponge Gourd	5	Neelam	5	337
Cucumber	2	Tamim Plus	2	298
Hot Pepper	2	Radikha	2	209
Okra	1	Express	1	259
Ridge Gourd	1	Moha Bir	1	310
Total	125		125	

Table 1 Notes

The number of crop varieties per quarter is gradually increasing as farmers are interested in having more variety options so that they can make the best choice.

Demos Associated with Projects

Table 2: Details of major projects during this quarter.

Project Name	Project Area	Average Land Size (sq. m.)	No. of Demos			% of Total Project Target Reached
			Ongoing	Completed	Terminated	
Smart Farming, Healthy Food	Bauphal	375	6	0	0	37%
	Bhola Sadar	470	8	5	0	
	Char Fasson	478	9	16	0	
	Galachipa	373	6	4	0	
	Hatiya	526	6	2	0	
	Kalapara	550	10	1	0	
	Noakhali Sadar	490	8	8	0	
	Subarna Char	394	25	11	0	
Total			78	47	0	

Table 2 Notes

Average land size has increased since the last quarter. This quarter was the rainy season, and ongoing demos were affected by the heavy rainfall, resulting in delayed harvest times.



Demo Profits and Productivity

Table 3: Average demo costs and profits. All results are calculated per 250 square meters.

Crop	No. of Demos	No. of Plants	Costs (Taka)	Returns (Taka)	Profits (Taka)	Productivity per Plant (kg)	EWS Reference	
							Productivity per Plant (kg)	Plant Population
Bitter Gourd	29	153	4,362	14,907	10,545	2.42	3 - 5	200 - 222
Bottle Gourd	6	96	2,915	12,651	9,736	8.50	13 - 17	111
Sponge Gourd	4	70	2,624	9,539	6,915	5.00	8-9	111
Yard Long Bean	4	442	3,420	11,216	8,409	1.00	1 - 1.12	667

Table 3 Notes

Bottle gourd had an ROI (return on investment) above 300%, and the ROI of other crops was around 240% to 260%.



Section 2 IMAGES OF DEMO PLOTS



Key farmer Md. Sahjahan Sikder from Char Fasson is happy with his yield of bottle gourd.



Key farmer Md. Khairul Islam at his sponge gourd demo. He used intercropping, a common practice in Bangladesh.



Field Day at Md. Abul Kalam Merdha's bottle gourd demo; his ROI was 247%.



Md. Jahangir's bitter melon demo. More farmers are now supporting their crops with high trellising.



Key farmer Abdul Malek sowing seed in a seed tray, which is becoming the most popular technique for seedling production among the farmers.



Healthy seedlings inside a nursery are attracting farmers' attention and increasing their interest in seedling nurseries.



Section 3

FARMER TRAINING

Training Sessions

Table 4: Number of farmers trained by region in this quarter.

Project	Demonstration Location	No. of Trainings	Total Farmers	Male	Female	Youth %
	District					
Smart Farming, Healthy Food	Bauphal	36	664	204	460	57%
	Bhola Sadar	19	278	137	141	49%
	Char Fasson	19	494	218	276	31%
	Galachipa	24	320	91	229	50%
	Hatiya	22	318	80	238	36%
	Kalapara	23	403	156	247	55%
	Noakhali Sadar	21	265	166	99	53%
	Subarna Char	30	366	228	138	37%
TOTAL		194	3,108	1,280	1,828	46%

Table 4 Notes

59% of training session participants were female, and 46% were youth.

Field Days

Table 5-1: Field Day location and attendance.

Project Name	Demonstration Location	No. of Field Days	Total Farmers	Male	Female	Youth %
	District					
Smart Farming, Healthy Food	Bauphal	7	267	87	180	62%
	Bhola Sadar	5	247	122	125	70%
	Char Fasson	8	330	183	147	37%
	Galachipa	7	125	60	65	54%
	Hatiya	2	79	38	41	42%
	Kalapara	6	135	76	59	51%
	Noakhali Sadar	7	224	135	89	60%
	Subarna Char	11	266	152	114	36%
Total		53	1,673	853	820	51%

Advice at Agro-Input Dealer Shops

Table 5-5: Advice provided at agro-input dealer shops by EWS-KT Technical Field Officers (TFOs) or supervised agro-input dealers.

Project	Location	Trainer	Party Trained	Modules or Activity	Total People Trained	Male	Female	Youth %
Smart Farming, Healthy Food	Bauphal	EWS-KT TFO	Farmers	Advice	231	185	46	40%
	Bhola Sadar	EWS-KT TFO	Farmers	Advice	2	2	0	0%
	Char Fasson	EWS-KT TFO	Farmers	Advice	64	64	0	58%
	Galachipa	EWS-KT TFO	Farmers	Advice	128	75	53	47%
	Hatiya	EWS-KT TFO	Farmers	Advice	136	76	60	44%
	Kalapara	EWS-KT TFO	Farmers	Advice	90	65	25	23%
	Noakhali Sadar	EWS-KT TFO	Farmers	Advice	34	33	1	38%
	Subarna Char	EWS-KT TFO	Farmers	Advice	122	94	28	43%
Total					807	594	213	42%

Other Value Chain Highlights

According to the fresh vegetable market survey, most vegetable prices on average are from 40 to 70 takas. In this quarter, the market price was a little high because of heavy rainfall; vegetable crops got damaged, and some died because of waterlogging.




Section 4

DIGITAL MEDIA

Digital Platform Members or Followers

Table 6: Number of members/followers at the end of each quarter.

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
EWS-KT Facebook Main Page (Followers)	-	746	898	
Country Facebook Group (Members)	4,780	4,823	4,960	
WhatsApp Group (Members)	91	114	107	

Country Facebook Content and Engagement

Table 7: Content creation and indicators of viewer engagement.

Posts Created	Total Views	Comments	Reactions
80	24,120	523	2,669

Digital Outreach

Table 8-1: Number of digital platform users, viewers, or views.

Digital Platform	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Country Facebook Group (Viewers)	19,407	18,807	24,120	
EWS-KT YouTube (Views)	225	330	1,774	
EWS-KT GrowHow (Users)	131	123	167	

Top 3 Facebook Posts

Facebook posts with the most engagement.



Farmer intercropped with leafy vegetables and earned 10,000 takas more

Reach

24,263

Comments

12

Shares

16

Likes

37

Reactions

7



VIEW POST



Video clip showing yields from the field

Reach

2,525

Comments

36

Shares

22

Likes

54

Reactions

21



VIEW POST



Field Day of bottle gourd

Reach

1,895

Comments

17

Shares

1

Likes

28

Reactions

11



VIEW POST

Fresh Vegetable Market Prices

Table 9: Retail vegetable prices during the quarter. This data was collected weekly from the local markets.

Crop	Vegetable Price Fluctuation, July to September 2023 (average price per kilo, in BDT)											
	W25	W26	W27	W28	W29	W30	W31	W32	W33	W34	W35	W36
Bitter Gourd	90	79	68	57	83	45	65	74	61	68	63	66
Cucumber	44	34	31	26	45	28	51	46	44	45	43	50
Bottle Gourd	40	38	35	35	45	39	38	43	31	38	36	31
Yard Long Bean	58	68	53	48	58	56	63	62	63	64	64	74
Hot Pepper	315	348	263	241	317	245	225	207	181	162	143	206
Onion	62	57	52	50	62	52	64	76	73	76	74	74
Tomato	57	53	52	105	85	80	70	90	70	142	162	167
Pumpkin	32	31	37	34	39	33	41	41	35	39	39	40
Ridge Gourd	46	45	42	44	52	46	51	56	43	49	46	52
Snake Gourd	45	44	40	33	48	41	44	53	42	37	38	44
Okra	51	53	58	54	49	60	63	66	68	46	53	60

Home Garden Demos Associated with Projects

Table 10: Details of major projects involving home gardens during this quarter.

Project Name	Project Area	Average Land Size (sq. m.)	Ongoing	Completed	Terminated	% of Total Project Target Reached
Smart Farming, Healthy Food	Bauphal	92	8	0	0	45%
	Bhola Sadar	91	6	0	0	
	Char Fasson	75	9	4	0	
	Galachipa	103	4	4	0	
	Hatiya	109	6	4	0	
	Kalapara	97	8	0	0	
	Noakhali Sadar	114	3	2	0	
	Subarna Char	99	7	3	0	
TOTAL			51	17	0	