



EAST-WEST SEED
FOUNDATION

KNOWLEDGE
TRANSFER

BANGLADESH - Q2

QUARTERLY REPORT

2023 (April - June)



Kharif Season



Section 1

NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS



KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

EWS-KT arranged a training-of-trainers professional development course for 17 members of the EWS-KT Bangladesh team, held from 28 to 30 May in Kuakata. The facilitator was Quazi Afzal Hossain, Additional Director, Department of Agricultural Extension, Khamarbari, Dhaka. During the 3-day session, the team explored farmer training and adult learning processes, facilitation process and techniques, and different training methods. Moreover, this was a great opportunity for team members to share their field experience, which helped to increase their confidence level.



DIGITAL & OTHER

The members of EWS-KT Bangladesh's digital platforms are gradually increasing, and we now have 4,823 members in our Facebook group. During this quarter, 82 Facebook posts were created, with 18,817 viewers.



DEMONSTRATION PLOTS

During this quarter, there were 129 demos, and 28% of the demos were managed by female key farmers. We plan to support and train all key farmers in vermicomposting, and 6 farmers have started the training.

19 home gardens were started this quarter, and they will run all year round with different crops and leafy vegetables.



Our team has been planning for a training-of-trainers course for a long time, and it happened during this quarter. It was a good and enjoyable learning session.



Farmers are encouraged to establish vermicompost production, and we help farmers to build vermicompost production units. The purpose is to produce good seedling media and to increase the availability of vermicompost for other farmers. We are providing practical training for key farmers in how to prepare quality vermicompost with low-cost and available resources. So far, we have supported 6 farmers in building vermicompost production units.



HIGHLIGHT IMAGES



The home garden of Mst. Morsheda Begum includes 6-10 different crops and leafy vegetables. She and her family are consuming vegetables from the home garden for their daily needs, and she is selling extra vegetables as well.



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	53	Palee Plus	51	516
		Payel	1	520
		Dola Plus	1	448
Yard Long Bean	19	Summer Field	19	400
Hot Pepper	16	Radikha	16	354
Watermelon	11	Banglalink	11	323
Bottle Gourd	10	Dotora Super	10	400
Sponge Gourd	7	Neelam	7	336
Pumpkin	6	Dorodi	3	327
		Pronoy Super	2	480
		Shiri	1	480
Okra	3	Express	3	291
Tomato	2	Shukhi	2	291
Ridge Gourd	2	Bir Super	2	412
Total	129		129	

Table 1 Notes

There were 14 varieties of 10 different crops this quarter. As usual, bitter gourd was the farmers' preference, as they feel that bitter gourd is comparatively less pest and disease prone and is a profitable crop.

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			Project Targets
			Ongoing	Completed	Terminated	
Smart Farming, Healthy Food	Bauphal	308	10	9	0	100%
	Bhola Sadar	515	8	6	0	
	Char Fasson	514	18	5	0	
	Galachipa	331	6	8	0	
	Hatiya	311	1	4	0	
	Kalapara	604	6	1	0	
	Noakhali Sadar	465	10	7	0	
	Subarna Char	343	19	11	0	
Total			78	51	0	



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
Hot Pepper	11	333	5,210	23,717	18,507	0.54	0.25 - 0.5	667
Watermelon	11	209	3,698	90,828	87,130	5	4 - 5	182
Yard Long Bean	10	369	3,840	14,072	10,233	0.71	1 - 1.12	667
Bitter Gourd	9	124	6,246	27,418	21,172	3.00	3 - 5	200 - 222

Table 3 Notes

Most of the farmers in this part of Bangladesh use the sorjan method on their land, and therefore the number of plants per 250 square meters is generally lower than the EWS reference. However, the yield per plant is good.



Section 2 IMAGES OF DEMO PLOTS



Our key farmer Md. Montaj Uddin preparing his nursery for a bitter gourd demo. Farmers are now becoming more interested in seedling nurseries, after seeing the benefits of using them.



Hot pepper key farmer Fahinur achieved a 344% ROI from her demo.



It can be challenging to increase farmers' participation in the training sessions, so to make this training session more attractive, Technical Field Officer Milton Chakma included a quiz competition.



A Mega Field Day at Nurul Islam Chowkider's hot pepper demo, with 150 farmers attending the event. His ROI was 260%.



In the past, farmers were not aware of sticky traps, but after working with EWS-KT, they are now using sticky traps to identify and capture insects.



Healthy seedlings and happy key farmer Jamal Uddin.



Section 3

FARMER TRAINING

During this quarter, most of the Field Days were conducted at bitter gourd and yard long bean demos. Farmers' participation in the Field Days can be a challenge, and we are making plans to develop the event to make it more lively and participatory. Besides the regular training sessions, our TFOs are spending time in agro-input dealers' shops to give farmers advice about EWS-KT techniques.

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	31	928	540	388	34%
	Bhola Sadar	18	278	156	122	25%
	Char Fasson	37	845	396	449	55%
	Galachipa	25	292	147	145	30%
	Hatiya	6	46	36	10	31%
	Kalapara	10	146	78	68	45%
	Noakhali Sadar	19	223	152	71	37%
	Subarna Char	33	391	228	163	60%
TOTAL		179	3,149	1,733	1,416	42%

Table 4 Notes

In this quarter, 45% of farmers were female and 42% 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	2	83	53	30	37%
	Bhola Sadar	6	143	90	53	36%
	Char Fasson	5	234	144	90	75%
	Galachipa	2	103	60	43	34%
	Hatiya	2	54	19	35	59%
	Subarna Char	5	143	70	73	97%
Total		22	760	436	324	61%

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	TFOs	Farmers	Advice	82	71	11	17%
	Bhola Sadar	TFOs	Farmers	Advice	98	82	16	20%
	Char Fasson	TFOs	Farmers	Advice	56	56	0	70%
	Galachipa	TFOs	Farmers	Advice	168	140	28	36%
	Hatiya	TFOs	Farmers	Advice	107	79	28	32%
	Noakhali Sadar	TFOs	Farmers	Advice	41	41	0	29%
	Subarna Char	TFOs	Farmers	Advice	132	132	0	45%
Total					684	601	83	35%

Other Value Chain Highlights

At regularly scheduled times, EWS-KT Technical Field Officers like Milton Chakma are present in agro-input dealer shops to give advice to farmers on EWS-KT techniques and vegetable production.




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		
Country Facebook Group (Members)	4,780	4,823		
WhatsApp Group (Members)	91	114		

Country Facebook Content and Engagement

Table 7: Content creation and indicators of viewer engagement.

Posts Created	Total Views	Comments	Reactions
82	18,817	262	1,489

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		
EWS-KT YouTube (Views)	225	330		
EWS-KT GrowHow (Users)	131	123		

