

KGF Annual Plan and Implementation Schedule Jan.-Dec.2015 (Tentative)

Krishi Gobeshona Foundation (KGF) initiated its program implementation in 2009 under NATP funding. Major activities included establishment of KGF office, recruitment of experts, support staff and implementation of short term Competitive Grants Program (CGP) research projects undertaken by different research institutions, universities, NGOs, etc. As many as 88 out of 93 awarded CGP projects under two public call were completed in October 2014. Besides 11 technology piloting projects for accelerating the extension process were also initiated under NATP of which 4 have already been completion. Rest of 7 technology piloting projects for upscaling which were partially funded from both NATP and BKGET will be completed soon.

From January 2015, all activities of KGF will be funded solely from BKGET fund. However, KGF started receiving BKGET fund from in the later part of 2012. Program of activities under KGF BKGET fund were formulated and upon approval and guidance of KGF Board, limited activities were initiated in 2013. Apart from short term (3 yrs) CGP research projects, the major thrust area under the trust fund (BKGET) has been long term Commissioned Research Programs (CRP) addressing regional problems, and capacity building programs (HRD & institutional facilities). In addition, potential technologies identified from the NATP funded completed projects will also be piloted with the involvement of local extension officers and more number of farmers for accelerating the extension and adoption process

Based on past experience of program implementation and institutional priority needs of NARS, an annual plan of 2015 containing major program activities of KGF has been prepared. The following plan and activity schedule (tentative) is being placed for approval by the Board:

Competitive Grants Program (CGP)

Competitive Grants Program (CGP) has been a powerful tool to promote competitive environment in the agricultural research systems. With the World Bank support, KGF through CGP attracted attention of scientists across the nation. KGF funded and implemented 93 CGP projects engaging scientists of NARS institutions, universities and NGOs of which 88 were completed in October 2014. In addition, KGF also awarded 12 CGP projects with KGF BKGET funding beginning May 2013 which will continue for the year 2015.

KGF invited project proposals on BARC selected issues/thematic areas in June 2014. The selection process is about to complete. The recommendation of the prospective proposals by TAC for Board approval is yet to be made. Experience suggests that calling proposal once in a year can be handled effectively. 15-20 projects per call may be offered depending on the quality of the proposals.

Tentatively, KGF will float announcement for calling proposals (2nd call) in January 2015 so that implementation may begin in June 2015.

Commissioned Research Programs (CRP)

To address problems/researchable issues demanding engagement of multidisciplinary and multi-organizational scientists focusing on developing technologies for production constraints of large stress areas, KGF initiated Commissioned Research Program (CRP). KGF Board had approved Concept Notes on four projects – (i) Hill agriculture, (ii) Coastal agriculture, (iii) Agriculture in drought-prone areas, and (iv) Agricultural production in haor areas. With the approval and funding from KGF, a multidisciplinary team of scientists representing Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University (BSMRAU), Cotton Development Board (CDB), and Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University (SAU) is currently implementing a Commissioned Research Project on Hill Agriculture. Sugarcane Research and Training Institute (BSTI) has come forward to implement a project on Sugarcane R&D as a

separate component of CRP Hill Agriculture. A group of scientists from BARI, BRRI, SAU, SRDI and several NGOs are currently engaged in developing CRP on Coastal Agriculture. One national consultant has been engaged to develop a CRP research proposal on drought prone environment. Detailed project proposals on these two important ecosystems are expected to be completed by June 2015.

Receiving specialized training on climate change and modeling on climate change impact on agriculture, a group of scientists (about 50) of BARI, BRRI, BINA, BSMRAU, SRDI, CDB and several other organizations have drafted a research proposal on 'Modeling impact of climate change of Bangladesh agriculture for developing adaptation strategy'. The proposal was placed to the TAC, & then to the Board for approval and implementation. KGF Board accorded approval and the project is going to be implemented soon. Formulation process of one project (haor ecosystem will be started from mid 2015).

Area and production of some important pulses and oilseed crops has declined with the expansion of rice mono crop over the years. There are compelling reasons for promoting pulse and oilseed crops through developing improved varieties and production technologies. Concept Notes on strengthening pulse and oilseed research (mission-mode programs) have been prepared & placed to the Board for approval. Upon approval of the concept note by the Board, KGF engaged a team of two experts to prepare a full project proposals for implementation from late 2015.

Capacity Building

KGF targets/plans to develop human capacity through specialized training, organizing workshop etc and improve physical facilities of the national agricultural research and education systems. And in doing so, KGF has been organizing training of scientists in batches on Research Proposal Writing, Climate and Agriculture, Crop Physiology, GIS & Remote Sensing for Crop Production and Natural Resource Management. So far, 180 scientists of 15 institutions have been trained. KGF plans to continue organizing workshops and training-workshops on such priority areas in several batches for 2015. KGF also plans to organize seminar and Conferences on issues of national and regional importance and international linkage programs.

Technology Piloting:

Transferable technologies generated/identified from the completed CGP projects need to scale up through pilot projects, involving concerned researchers (PI), local extension officers and large number of farmers. Otherwise, benefit of research investment cannot be realized. Thus a good number of transferrable technologies identified from CGP completed projects will be piloted for accelerating extension process in 2015 and beyond.

International Cooperation/Collaboration:

In order to enhance research quality and upgrade knowledge and skill of our scientists, it is felt useful to undertake research collaboration support programs with reputed international/national institutions/universities in other developed/developing countries. Few ideas on such possible collaboration support programs/projects/activities are in progress. In the coming years, KGF will explore the avenues for undertaking collaborative programs though co-financing with Universities/Organizations of developed countries like Cornell University, USA; ACIAR/CSIRO, Australia; NUFIC, Netherland etc.

KGF Annual Plan Implementation Schedule 2015

Sl.	List of activities to be performed	Performance Schedule of each activity (tentative)											
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
A. Competitive Grant Program under KGF BKGET Funding													
1	Selection of priority researchable issues by TAC/BoDs by Dec. 2014. Invitation of proposal by KGF in January 2015 (giving 6 weeks) to be submitted by Feb. 2015	■	■										
2	Listing of the proposals received by Sub-sector and Thematic areas, screening by KGF professionals, review by expert reviewer and overview by TAC members for short listing for presentation and making recommendation for KGF Board consideration.		■	■	■								
3	Board approval, MOU signing and awarding grant.					■	■						
4	Conducting concurrent M&E of KGF BKGET funded on going projects.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
5	Organizing half yearly, Annual progress review and planning workshops/meetings.	■			■	■						■	■
B. Commissioned Research Program:													
1.	Harnessing the potentials of Hill Agriculture: Enhancing Crop Production through Sustainable Management of Natural Resources -Its coordination, implementation, management & concurrent M&E.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2.	Organizing Project Inception workshop	■	■						■	■			
3.	Organizing half yearly and Annual progress review and planning workshops/meetings. etc.					■	■					■	■
4.	Project implementation on Modeling Climate Change Impact on Agriculture	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
5.	Project formulation and implementation on Coastal Agriculture, Drought Prone Environment and Haor Agriculture	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
6.	Project formulation and implementation (Mission Mode) on oil seed, pulse R&D and others crops	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
C. Capacity Enhancement													
1.	Trainings/workshops on Research Project Proposal Preparation/Report Writing/ GIS & Remote sensing / and Climate Change Impact on Agriculture.	■	■		■	■		■	■		■	■	
2.	Holding need based seminar, workshops, etc.					■		■				■	■
3.	Providing assistance to develop/improve physical facilities of NARS institute based on Need Assessment study.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
4.	Developing International linkage & collaboration with reputed universities and R&D organizations.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
D. Other Activities													
1.	Continue implementation of the on-going pilot projects initiated through NATP funding. Impact assessment studies of the completed pilot projects.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2.	Holding Board/General Body and other meetings, Project Management meetings/workshops.		■			■		■		■		■	■
3.	Identification of transferable technologies from the completed CGP Projects in 2014 and implementation of pilot projects for their upscaling	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
4.	Preparation and Printing of Annual Report/project briefs/other reports, compilation of technical and scientific booklets/publications etc.		■	■			■	■				■	■
5.	Preparation of action plan/implementation plan / activity plan for the year 2016											■	■
6.	Misc. activities not identified	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Piloting /Up-scaling of identified technologies from completed CGP projects. Impact