

Opportunity for Practice Change (OPC)

Country/region

Bangladesh

Title

Development of National Policy and Action Plan for Integrated Manure Management in Livestock System

Situation analysis OPC

Bangladesh was one of the first member countries of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to take part in the Supporting National Planning for Action on the reduction of Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs) (SNAP) initiative. The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) formulated a draft National Action Plan (NAP) for reducing SLCPs in 2013. Two of the abatement measures selected for reducing black carbon and methane emissions in Bangladesh were related to biogas production from livestock and poultry, namely 'substitution of biomass cook stoves with stoves using clean-burning fuel (biogas)' and 'control of methane emission from livestock through anaerobic digestion of manure from cattle and poultry'. Nevertheless, Integrated Manure Management (IMM) in livestock system has not been addressed yet in the current draft NAP.

The NAP acknowledges the potential of projects already on the ground in Bangladesh that aim at managing manure to scale up biogas and electricity generation for communities that can have a wide range of benefits. However, The primary responsibility for the NAP is allocated to Ministry of Power Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Environment and Forest and Ministry of Commerce whilst the Rural Development Academy (RDA) and its Community Biogas Digester (CBD) project are not mentioned and key ministries such as the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL) and its key organizations such as Department of Livestock Services and Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute that are responsible for the coordination of livestock development activities and research and development, respectively are also not included at this stage. The results of the scoping study on manure management policy (MP) also indicate that in Bangladesh there is no MP, MP is part of other policies and MoFL is the weakest link with regard to manure management.

Therefore, the development of an integrated manure management policy and action plan will strengthen clear roles and coordination among relevant stakeholders and create enabling environment to improve manure management nationwide.

Opportunity

Connected to the SNAP initiative, there is an opportunity for gathering knowledge, raising awareness and building up network/partnerships in manure management as well as integrating further key stakeholders such as, the Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI), Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, and Ministry of Local Government & Rural Development and Cooperatives to jointly develop the IMM National Policy and Action Plan.

Objective(s) OPC (*what achieved*)

- i) IMM National policy and plan is developed through the SNAP process for the control of methane emission from livestock;

- ii) Knowledge on the mitigation of SLCs of livestock manure and sustainable livestock production is gathered and shared, and awareness on livestock manure management (LMM) is increased among policy actors, farmers, livestock entrepreneurs, researchers and educationists.

Target group(s) OPC (with whom)

This OPC is targeted to policy actors who are actively involved in CCAC Agriculture and SNAP initiative (Ministry of Power Energy and Mineral Resources; Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Ministry of Environment and Forest; Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Education, as well as concerned public and private sectors, and also NGO (e.g. SNV, IFAD and GIZ, Practical Action, Bangladesh Biogas Development Foundation). It is also targeted to ministries responsible for policy development, researchers and university faculties in the related field.

Method & Activities OPC (how)

The following methodology will be followed for achieving the objectives of the project.

i) Integrated Manure management (IMM) policy development: IMM policy available in member countries will be consulted with the help of CCAC and the CCAC Manure Knowledge Kiosk (CCAC-MKK). A process of formulating IMM policy will consist of an inception consultation meeting of all concerned stakeholders, especially of the public sector, followed by a study tour of taskforce (TF) and steering committee outside the country for an orientation and gathering of experiences on policy development and for updating knowledge of manure management. A seminar aiming to provide a clear understanding of manure management and its linked issues (impacts of mismanagement, benefits and co benefits of good manure management) before a write-shop on policy drafting process in accordance with the NAP will be organized by the project implementing authority of the BLRI. The inception consultation meeting, seminar and media launch will raise awareness of the stakeholders, support strategic planning for policy development and also communicate key messages of IMM nationwide.

The concerned government agencies (key ministries), private sectors, NGOs, research institutes, universities, international organizations, experts, etc. will participate in the seminar and in the write-shop. The TF with technical assistance from experts will prepare draft policy document. The project implementation unit (BLRI) will take necessary follow up actions for the approval of the document by the government.

ii) Knowledge collection and sharing activities: Documentation of knowledge on the benefits of IMM will be done. This knowledge will be visualized and shared through the development of a manure management kiosk Bangladesh website, videos and other printed materials (e.g., flyers and policy briefs). In addition, mass media will be sensitized to issues of clean air and sustainable livestock production in rural communities. Technical assistance required for the documentation of knowledge will be sought from the CCAC/LMMC-MKK as in budget breakdown.

iii) Media launch & IMM advocacy will be organized during the write-shop for a wider circulation of project activities, IMM knowledge and to promote using of Bangladesh Knowledge Kiosk.

Implementers (by whom)

The Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI) will play an active role on the implementation and coordination with technical support from the Central Hub (CH), the Regional Center (RC), taskforce and Steering Committee from concerned ministries.

(Expected) Results & Impact OPC

Documented knowledge including information on CBD systems will be available on web portal of Bangladesh manure management Kiosk for wider users. Steering committee and task force will be key actors on the process of national policy formulation with enhanced integration amongst the different relevant departments. It may result in a government approved policy document in accordance with the NAP of the country, and pave the way to achieving long-term and widespread improvements and sustainable implementation of manure management both at smallholder and commercial levels of livestock and poultry productions. Bangladesh IMM kiosk – a web portal—will help link stakeholders to share knowledge and information on CBD systems. A strong network that includes policy actors (government agencies, politicians and NGOs), public and private sectors, educational institutions and farmers at both local and national levels may sensitize and build awareness of all concerned on livestock and poultry manure management that may reduce SLCPs and help sustainable development.

Risks & Assumptions OPC

The downstream benefits of sensitization of the government and policy actors on the adoption of OPCs, and financial investment would be a major assumption. Moreover, creating an enabling environment integrating different stakeholders, especially, the relevant ministries, and strengthening of existing capacity of the host organization may mitigate risk by providing a basis for sustained action. Most important assumption will be institutionalization of manure management activities in the country.

Added value LMMC

The ongoing project investment on CBD systems of the government will end in 2015 and it is required to be continued further. The project support to policy development, knowledge Kiosk will keep the project sites operative and linking the key stakeholders effectively will make substantive progress of CBD project activities. The initial technical and financial support will help convince the concerned authority to keep project activity going, and may make it operational for a longer time inviting further public sector investment. Moreover, private sector investment is also important for the CBD system as it has the potential to develop into social businesses in rural communities. Furthermore, international development partners may share financial support to further expand of the CBD system.

Multiplier/Leverage

Bangladesh is a member country of CCAC, and expressed her deep concern on environmental pollution. Manure management is still confined to a policy of application of cow dung in crop fields and the NAP. The IMM and CBD system will be an effective lesson and tool for reducing air pollutants at community level that integrates rural smallholder livestock and poultry producers and provides options for developing social business for improving livelihood, health, nutrition and for empowering women and helping child education. Moreover, it helps cost effective production of

crops, maintaining soil health and reducing pesticide and chemical fertilizer use. It may be a practical tool for CCAC member countries having similar socio-economic conditions. This project will play an important role through bringing all of these issues into a common platform. The LMMC support may attract public sector to invest further.

Communication

Demonstration to visitors of the benefits of IMM and CBD systems is the most effective way of communication to stakeholders. A bilateral agreement between the BLRI – the only national R&D organization in livestock and poultry – and the RDA – one of the organizations that deals with research, training & development in rural areas—will help knowledge sharing with concerned stakeholders. The existing concerned public sector organization like the Dept. of Livestock Services, which has a country wide network to support livestock and poultry production, and private organizations may be brought under the network for communicating the results of the OPC. Other international organisations, such as GIZ, SNV, USAID national organizations may also be brought under the network.