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**REVITALIZING POLICIES FOR FOOD SECURITY
AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN SOUTH ASIA
(India Component)**

5th Quarterly Report

Submitted to the:

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
New Delhi, India

by the:

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
2033 K St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006-1002
USA
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March 2003

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Revitalizing Policies for Food Security and Poverty Alleviation in South Asia (India Component)

I. Introduction

The South Asia Initiative of IFPRI has undertaken several policy and outreach activities for developing program and policy interventions that will ensure national and household food security while addressing the existing procurement, storage, and distribution policies in South Asian countries. As a follow-up to the April 2002 PAANSA conference, two workshops were carried out in the last quarter – (1) Agricultural Diversification and (2) Trade Policy, WTO, and South Asian Agriculture.

1. Agricultural Diversification Workshop in South Asia

In collaboration with the Royal Government of Bhutan, Ministry of Agriculture (RGoB-MoA) and National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NCAP) a workshop on “Agricultural Diversification in South Asian Countries” was held in Paro, Bhutan on November 21-23, 2002. This workshop brought together 36 key researchers and policymakers from all PAANSA member countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka). Key researchers of these countries presented sixteen papers in five sessions. The workshop’s objectives were:

- To document the empirical evidence on agricultural diversification in South Asian countries, with special focus on smallholder farmers;
- To illustrate models of vertical integration in production-marketing and value addition of high value enterprises in different South Asian countries; and
- To discuss policy, institutional, and infrastructure support needs that will increase smallholders involvement in agricultural diversification and globalization.

A brief summary of the workshop is presented below.

Session I: Changing Consumption Patterns and Agricultural Diversification: Global Trends and South Asian Scenario

Dr. Kumar and Dr. Mruthyunjaya reviewed the long-term changes in India's food basket. They highlighted the need to understand how rural and urban area food baskets are changing, the nature of such changes in the poorer states, and why these changes are occurring. Their empirical evidence shows how the food basket is being changed.

Dr. P. Parthasarathy Rao, Dr. P.S. BIRTHAL, and Dr. P.K. Joshi examined the extent, nature, and speed of agricultural diversification in South Asian countries. They also identified determinants of agricultural diversification, and assessed the implications of agricultural diversification on food security, employment, and sustainable use of natural resources.

Dr. Mubarak Ali discussed the role of diversification in development from Pakistan's experience. He quantified the relationships between crop productivity and cropping system diversification on the one hand, and laborers earning capacity and their diversification in their diet on the other. He analyzed the factors responsible for food and crop diversity.

Session II: Diversification to High Value Agricultural Production

Dr. Prabhu Pingali and Dr. Kinlay Dorjee reviewed the consumption and production trends in South Asian agriculture and identified the agronomic and economic options for and constraints to diversification in the main agricultural systems. They emphasize that long term strategies are needed to facilitate a smooth transition to commercialization. Investments in rural market, transportation, and communications infrastructure will help integrate the rural economy. Also, investments in crop improvement research and crop management and extension will help increase the flexibility of farmers and reduce possible environmental problems from high input

use. Furthermore, secure land and water rights need to be established to reduce risks to farmers and to provide incentives for sustaining long-term investment.

Dr. Sarfraz Khan Qureshi discussed the role, prospect, and pertinent issues of agricultural diversification in favour of high value crops for Pakistan. He dealt with issues that other high value crops were facing. He also reviewed the changing mindset of reorganizing the sector into a corporate approach, which can lead to vertical integration of farms and firm relations. He also emphasized that SPS issues are rising and have gained of policymakers' attention. Strengthening capacity in SPS issues and making essential personnel aware of these issues, will help alleviate the binding constraint that fruits, vegetables, and other high value export products are facing in developed country markets.

Dr. Ferdous Alam focused on the Nature and Extent of Agricultural Diversification in Bangladesh. Although the Bangladeshi government is committed to crop diversification and developing capacity to provide standard, quality, competitive products that satisfy SPS and other WTO requirements, more is needed for crop diversification to be successful. Appropriate baskets of crops need to be identified; eventually, agro-processing facilities need to be established to handle the surpluses of crops, fish, and livestock that agricultural diversification will bring.

Dr. Champak Pokharel looked at agricultural diversification in Nepal. He discussed the global and regional comparative advantage of Nepal in agriculture, water resources, and tourism. Even with these comparative advantages, Nepal has not seen much growth in the agricultural sector because of low investment, inappropriate intervention policies, and lack of prioritization and monitoring.

Agriculture diversification is one way to improve agricultural growth, but it requires identifying commodities for production and manufacturing. It also requires reforming the institutional support structure and policies, and establishing appropriate linkage between commodity and industries and research and extension technology.

Session III: Diversification, Vertical Integration, and SPS Issues

A team of researchers from NCAP Dr. P.S. Birthal, Dr. P. K. Joshi, Dr. Bharat Ramaswami, Dr. Arun Kumar, Dr. P. Parthasarathy Rao, and Dr. Anjani Kumar looked at vertical integration in various agricultural sectors -dairy, poultry, and fruits and vegetables.

They found that the primary production centers of high-valued commodities are largely concentrated with smallholders. However, these farmers do not reap the benefits of their high valued crops because of small marketable surplus, lack of appropriate market and information access, and high transaction costs. To reap the benefits, smallholders need to be integrated with markets through appropriate institutional arrangements. The supply chain needs to be strengthened through vertical linkages between producers and consumers. The few Indian firms that have begun vertical integration, could be used as case studies to learn the processes needed for integration and to assess how these integrated firms benefit the farming community.

Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures are increasingly gaining importance in the international trade of agricultural products. In response to this Ajay Rastogi and Ruchi Pant analyzed the challenges that agricultural exports will encounter when the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) is fully implemented. They described the basic principles of the agreement and highlighted major issues and impediments in its implementation in India. They also reviewed the certification challenges and offered suggestions on adopting a low cost certification procedure for small farmers.

Md. Saleh Ahmed and Abul Quasem focused on what is needed to satisfy the SPS requirements for fresh produce exported from Bangladesh. They discussed the level of fresh produce exports, the scenario that is emerging due to SPS Agreement, the basic issues of concern, and Bangladesh's initiative.

Session IV: Empowering Smallholders for Participation in High Value Agriculture

Information and communication technology (ICT) can help empower smallholders to participate in high value agriculture. Dr. Rajeswari Rao Pingali examined how much of the ICT boom has moved towards the agricultural economy in India and towards benefiting the farmer community. He also looked at the medium and small farmers, and how models should be adjusted, adapted, and reinforced for better use by the farmer.

Dr. Bharat Ramaswami reviewed the effects of contract farming and price bargaining on small poultry producers in Andhra Pradesh, India. He examined the conceptual issues relevant to the problem, the economic basis of contracting, the distribution of benefits, and the effect on small farmers.

The workshop was very useful in pulling together relevant regional experiences to be shared amongst policymakers, researchers, and analysts from the region. In general, the papers and the discussions highlighted how diversification has been steadily increasing in most South Asian Countries. It also highlighted the need for institutional and policy reforms which help increase the rural income of smallholders, and contribute to reduce poverty.

Detailed program of the workshop and participants list is attached. Proceedings of the workshop are being reviewed for possible publication.

2. Workshop on Trade Policy, WTO, and South Asian Agriculture

Over the past 20 years, South Asian countries have generated economic growth and strengthened their macro-economies by implementing production, trade, and investment reforms. Despite these reforms, South Asia's total contribution to global trade has remained stagnant at 1 percent. With four of the six South Asian countries already acceding to the World Trade Organization (WTO), what can these countries do to take advantage of the anti-

poverty and economic growth benefits generated by this accession. To reap the benefits of this accession in-country policymakers, and policy researchers and analysts need to understand the issues, challenges, and constraints facing them. This requires building capacity in understanding the regulations of the World Trade Organization, specifically the Agreement on Agriculture, sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS), and intellectual property rights. Bringing policymakers and policy researchers and analyst together from the region allows countries that have already acceded to the WTO to share experiences with countries that have not acceded such as Bhutan and Nepal, while it also let acceded countries share experiences amongst themselves

Therefore, the South Asia Initiative of IFPRI in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Bhutan and the World Bank Institute conducted a 5-day workshop addressing WTO issues related to Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS), intellectual property rights (IPR), and technical barriers to trade (TBT). The workshop consisted of 6 international experts. In addition to lectures, the 30 participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka gave group presentations regarding the status of their country in the WTO process.

The 5-day workshop was broken into 4 sessions each day with each session providing an opportunity for discussion. The morning session of the opening day provided the background to, motivation, and main elements of the Agreement on Agriculture (AOA) and other Uruguay Round Agreements (SPS, TBT, and IPR). This session also provided an opportunity to distinguish treatment between developed and developing countries. Time was allotted to look at developments and issues in international agricultural trade since the Uruguay Round such as trends in world commodity markets and prices; present and future role of China; Doha Round, US Farm Bill, EU and the CAP; developed and developing country negotiating positions; and South Asia's negotiating position.

The afternoon session was an overview of trade policies and agriculture in South Asia from the 1990s. It provided opportunities to discuss the macro-economic policies, protection policies, input policies and subsidies; domestic support, stabilization policies, and export

policies, "behind the border" policies and institutions; AoA and other WTO commitments of the South Asian countries, and agricultural trade liberalization and adjustment issues.

The second day allowed capacity to be strengthened in understanding the linkages between trade policies, food security, and WTO. After explaining these linkages, the participants from Pakistan, India, and Bangladesh made group presentations on major current policies, reforms, and issues in agriculture and trade that are happening in their country.

The group presentations continued into the next day with Sri Lanka and Nepal. The focus of the Sri Lanka presentation was based on major current policies, reforms, and issues in agriculture and trade that were currently happening in their country, while Nepal presentation had a slightly different twist since they have not acceded to the WTO.

After the group presentation, Digby Gascoine, a consultant who was the Director of the Policy and International Division of the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service from 1994-2000, strengthened the participants capacity in basic principles such as science-based and risk-based approach; harmonization; risk assessment and consistent risk management; special features such as equivalence and regionalization; transparency provisions; technical assistance/special and differential treatment; machinery; dispute settlement; and national treatment and non-discrimination. He also taught about Doha Round issues and South Asian policies on imports and exports related to sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues.

The fourth day focused on the relationship between intellectual property rights (IPR) and agriculture. Bibek Debroy, Director of Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, reviewed the rules and issues facing South Asia. Then a panel consisting of Rashid Kaukab, Director of the South Center in Geneva and Anitha Ramanna of the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research fielded questions. The afternoon was spent learning about major current policies, reforms, and issues including WTO accession for Bhutan.

The fifth day was dedicated to field trip to Bhutan Agro-industries in Thimphu and the indigenous traditional medicinal institutes

The papers from this workshop will be published in a reader that will be made available to the public through IFPRI's website as well as announced in the TCSP monthly electronic newsletter. A summary of the participants' evaluation, which also contains the agenda and participant's list is in Appendix B.

3. Implementation of Policy Research Study

Research Study on Reforms in the Indian Food Security Complex with a special focus on Procurement and Trade Liberalization

Dr. Shikha Jha, lead researcher at IGIDR, visited IFPRI for 4 weeks to work closely with Ashok Gulati. Methodological details and very preliminary results of the study were presented in a seminar at IFPRI. The study is progressing very well in incorporating the comments received and developing the analysis further. Two final draft chapters of the report have already been submitted for review. The others are in progress and will be completed soon.

The structure of the draft reports is as follows:

1. Introduction
2. Trade and Marketing Policy Perspective
3. Role of FCI versus Private Sector
4. Multi-Commodity Spatial Equilibrium Model
5. Removal of Restrictions on Domestic Movement of Grains
6. Decentralised Procurement
7. Conclusions and Policy Implications

Research Study on Reforms in the Indian Food Security Complex with a special focus on distribution

The principal investigator, Dr. Mahendra Dev of Center for Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad, India, is planning to visit IFPRI in April 2003. Preliminary results of this study will also be presented at an IFPRI seminar. The final paper incorporating the comments from the lead researcher, Dr. Gulati, and the seminar is expected to be completed by the end of May 2003. The structure of the draft report is as follows:

1. Changing Consumption patterns: 1980-2000
2. Impact of PDS on poor and how to strengthen it
3. PDS in Andhra coupon system etc.
4. ICDS
5. Public Works programmes
6. Rural non-farm
7. Conclusions

4. Conclusion

The activities proposed under the South Asia Initiative funded by USAID-Delhi are progressing well and will hopefully be completed as planned.

No major constraints in achieving the project goals are anticipated in the next reporting period.

Workshop on
Trade Policy, WTO, and South Asian Agriculture

Evaluation Report

Jointly Organized by:
Ministry of Agriculture, Bhutan
The World Bank Institute (WBI)
International Food Policy Research Institute

Paro, Bhutan,
November 26-30, 2002

Trade Policy, WTO, and South Asian Agriculture: Evaluation

Evaluation

The participants in general found the workshop useful (3.9¹), relevant (3.9), comprehensive, focused, and informative (4.1) (Appendix D). Two participants said that it was overall excellent. One participant said it was “excellent...it was an opportunity to learn many new things on a subject that is becoming more and more relevant to my country needs. Another wrote that it was “very useful to know more about WTO issues. It will help to protect our interest through WTO...” The workshop also provided an opportunity to “learned new areas as well as updated old knowledge “ and it was an “excellent information base on emerging issues relating to WTO and trade related issues. It is an “ideal opportunity to get to know what other countries in the region are doing and how they are adjusting to the emerging needs” as well as “inform them of where they stand.” It was suggested that the South Asian context required a more problem and target specific approach, that the SPS procedures should have been included to accommodate operational agencies, and that the pace should be slowed.

Although several participants felt that the workshop was well organized several suggestions were provided in how to improve the organization. Some suggestions include increasing the number of qualified consultants as well as wider representation of backgrounds, specifically South Asian. The six international experts that taught the workshop were from Australia (3), India (2), and Pakistan (1). With regards to lecture delivery, it was suggested that specific topics be taught initially and then case studies presented, lecturer’s questions be collected and answered as a group, the number of group discussions increased, and simulation exercises included. It was suggested that a separate section for comparative study of country papers be included. It was also suggested that reading material be distributed ahead of time. In preparation for this workshop, several articles were distributed to participants through email. In response to email accounts reaching capacity, all reading and presentation material that were submitted were uploaded to an FTP site for access by all of the participants. In response to a previous SAI workshop where the participants did not want to carry a large volume of hard copies home, the reading and lecture materials were burned onto a CD, which each participant received at the workshop. The participants also received a hard copy of each presentation to be used for note taking.

The presentations were well received and perceived as professional. Some suggestions for improving the presentations include inviting subject matter specialists. The specialists in this workshop included Digby Gascoine on SPS, Rashid Kaukab on the WTO generally including AoA and IPR, William Martin on WTO and the AoA, Ashok Gulati on South Asian Agriculture, Suresh Babu on capacity strengthening and South Asian Agriculture, and Garry Pursell on South Asian trade policies and agriculture. Another suggestion is to ensure that all resource persons are able to attend the workshop. In planning this workshop, several panelists accepted invitations to attend as resource persons, but due to unexpected events (death, national meetings), had to cancel at the last minute. Another suggestion was to limit to length of each presentation by discussing the details during the discussion session. It was also suggested that the presenters use the latest statistical data as well as transparencies and slides. Many of the presenters used PowerPoint to present their lectures. It was also suggested that a different room be used in the future to reduce echos and that each table have a microphone.

¹ On a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the minimum and 5 representing the maximum

Overall, the workshop was perceived to be a success. The materials covered during the workshop were considered to be practical and useful for the participants. For example, several participants indicated that they will use the new information to teach courses, hold seminars, and workshops to educate students and stakeholders e.g., Gopal Naik, Jeevika Weerahewam, and Naheed Zia Khan. It will also guide the research agendas of several participants. Many of the participants said that these issues are a part of their every day duties at their organizations in conducting research or providing advice to the government on trade negotiations and policy such as better certification mechanisms to meet SPS international criteria. The information will help one participant evaluate his country's position in relation to WTO, trade, and trade related issues and to suggest what measures they should adopt in facing new challenges. It also strengthened one's participant's knowledge for advocating and defending her organization. The editor of the "World Trade Review" (a fortnightly newspaper published in Islamabad) said, "the information learned is useful in editing the paper and disseminating information to over 5000 readers." Some participants said they will use the new capacity to further develop their organization to meet the SPS needs of WTO, while others will use it to work with the private sector during accession as well as with institutions that are directly affected: e.g. SPS information to exporters, IPR information to relevant associations, and economic issues to business people. IFPRI will put together the presentations to be published in a proceedings volume to be distributed to university students, policy researchers, policymakers, and negotiators.



Evaluation Form

South Asia Initiative Trade Policy, WTO, and South Asian Agriculture Workshop November 26-30, 2002 Paro Bhutan

Please circle one

<u>1. Overview</u>	Minimum					Maximum	
a. Relevance of this activity to your current work or functions	1	2	3	4	5	NO*	
b. Extent to which you have acquired information that is new to you	1	2	3	4	5	NO	
c. Usefulness for you of the information that you have acquired	1	2	3	4	5	NO	
d. Focus of this activity on what you specifically needed to learn	1	2	3	4	5	NO	
e. Extent to which the content of this activity matched the announced objectives	1	2	3	4	5	NO	
f. Overall usefulness of this activity	1	2	3	4	5	NO	
 <u>2. Objectives</u>							
a. The objectives of the workshop are well defined.	1	2	3	4	5	NO	
b. The objectives met my capacity needs.	1	2	3	4	5	NO	
c. Five days were sufficient to achieve the objectives.	1	2	3	4	5	NO	

If not, how many days would you suggest?

* No Opinion

3. Materials/Reading

Minimum

Maximum

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| a. The training materials cover the objectives set for the workshop. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NO |
| b. The reading materials are highly useful as resources. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NO |

4. Presentation

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| a. The presentations were clear and well articulated. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NO |
| b. Enough time was spent on discussing various topics. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NO |
| c. The presenters were helpful in engaging the participants in discussion. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NO |

5. Facility

- | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| a. The workshop facility was conducive to learning. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NO |
| b. The presentation equipment was good. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NO |
| c. The equipment added value to the presentations. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NO |

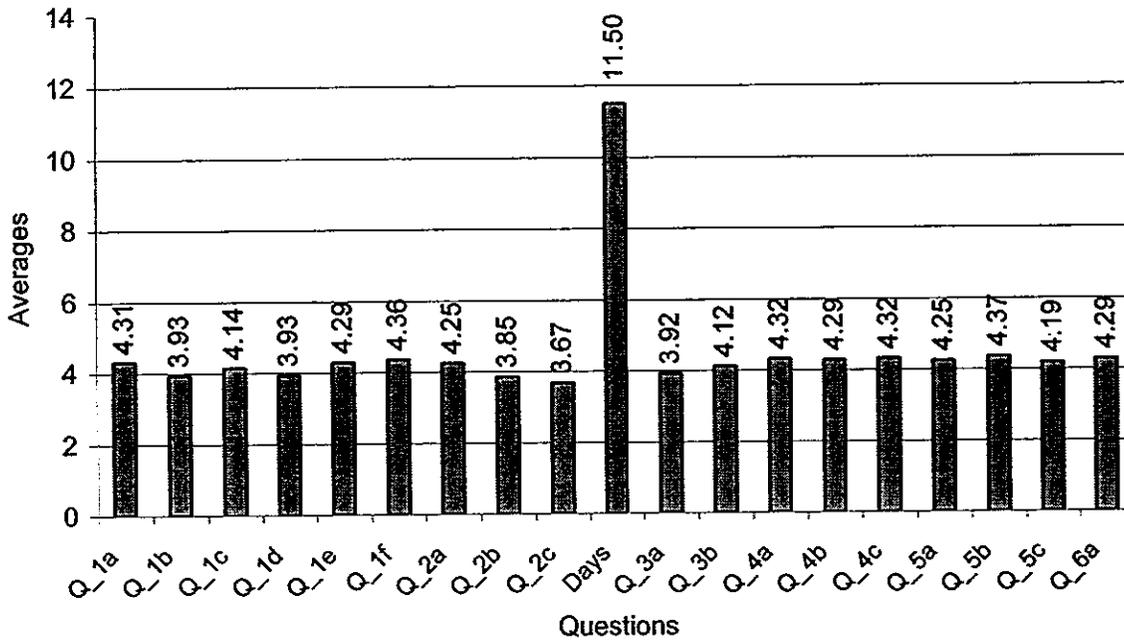
6. Overall Rating

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| a. On a scale of 1 to 5, 5 being the highest, I would rate the workshop above as __. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | NO |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|

7. Feedback

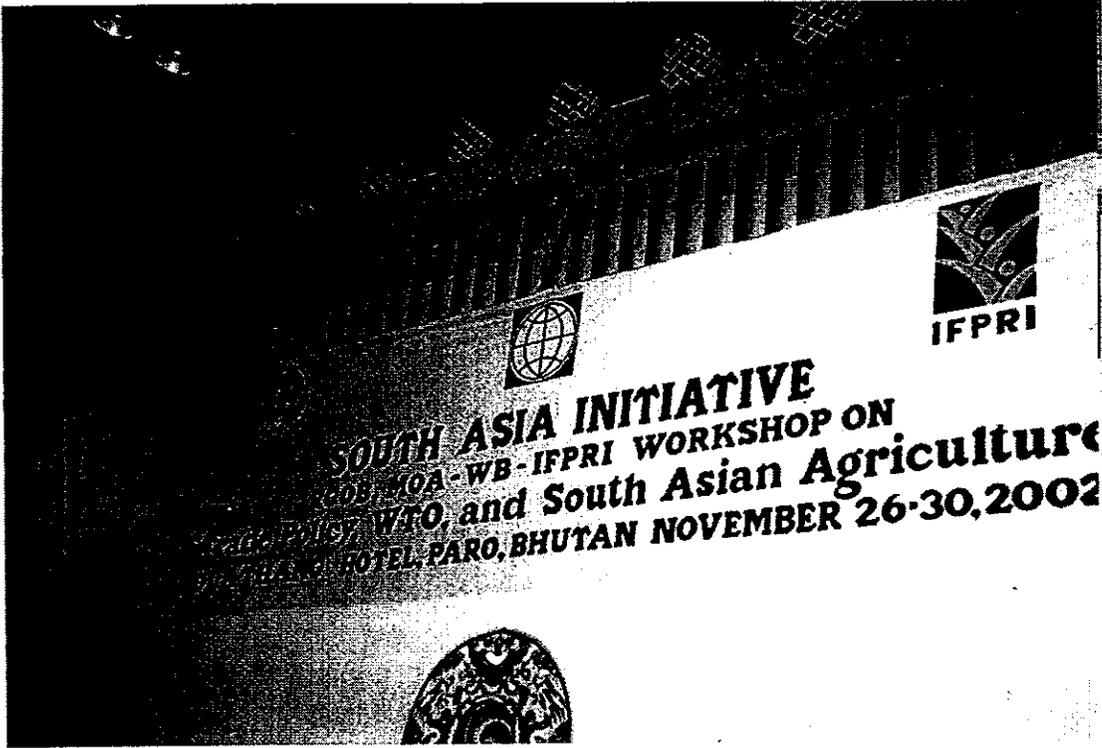
- a. Please give us your feedback on the following:
 - a1. Contents of the workshop
 - a2. How to improve the organization of the lectures.
 - a3. How to improve the presentation of the lectures.
- b. Indicate how the skills learned will be useful to you.

Averages of Evaluation Questions



Descriptive Statistics of Evaluation Questions

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Q_1B	29	2.00	5.00	3.9310	.88362
Q_1C	28	3.00	5.00	4.1429	.80343
Q_1D	27	3.00	5.00	3.9259	.78082
Q_1E	28	3.00	5.00	4.2857	.76290
Q_1F	28	2.00	5.00	4.3571	.78004
Q_2A	28	2.00	5.00	4.2500	.79931
Q_2B	27	3.00	5.00	3.8519	.76980
Q_2C	27	1.00	5.00	3.6667	1.44115
DAYS	5	10.00	15.00	11.5000	2.23607
Q_3A	26	1.00	5.00	3.9231	.93480
Q_3B	25	2.00	5.00	4.1200	.88129
Q_4A	28	3.00	5.00	4.3214	.61183
Q_4B	28	2.00	5.00	4.2857	.85449
Q_4C	28	2.00	5.00	4.3214	.81892
Q_5A	28	3.00	5.00	4.2500	.79931
Q_5B	27	3.00	5.00	4.3704	.68770
Q_5C	27	3.00	5.00	4.1852	.78628
Q_6A	28	3.00	5.00	4.2857	.59982



SOUTH ASIA INITIATIVE

Collaborative RGoB, MoA-NCAP-IFPRI Workshop on “Agricultural Diversification in South Asia”

**Olathang Hotel
Olathang, Paro, Bhutan**

November 21-23, 2002

Tentative Agenda

Jointly Organized by:



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SOUTH ASIA INITIATIVE

Collaborative RGoB, MoA-NCAP-IFPRI Workshop on
"Agricultural Diversification in South Asia"
Olathang Hotel, Olathang, Paro, Bhutan
November 21-23, 2002

TENTATIVE AGENDA

November 21, 2002

Afternoon **FIELD VISIT**

November 22, 2002

8:00 AM **Registration**

9:00-9:20 Welcome and Opening Remarks
MoA-Bhutan/NCAP/IFPRI

9:20-9:30 Workshop Background
A. Gulati

9:30-1:00 **Session 1: Changing Consumption Patterns and Agricultural
Diversification: Global Trends and South Asian Scenario**
Chairperson: TBD from Bhutan

9:30-9:55 Changing Consumption Basket and Agricultural Diversification: Global
Trends with Special Reference to South Asia
C. Delgado/A. Gulati

9:55-10:20 Long Term Changes in Food Basket in India
P. Kumar and Mruthyunjaya

10:20-10:45 Agricultural Diversification in India and Role of Urbanization
P. Parthasarathy Rao, P. S. Birthal and P. K. Joshi

10:45-11:15 **COFFEE BREAK**

11:15-11:40 Role of Diversification in Development: Some Initial Evidence
from Pakistan
Mubarik Ali

- 11:40-12:10 Discussants – G. Sashi Kumar and Dayanatha Jha
- 12:10-1:00 Open Discussion
- 1:00-2:15 LUNCH**
- 2:15-5:30 Session II: Diversification to High Value Agricultural Production**
Chairperson: Shawki Barghouti
- 2:15-2:40 Diversification in South Asian Agricultural Systems: Trends and Constraints
Prabhu Pingali and Kinlay Dorjee
- 2:40-3:05 Diversification in Bhutan
Deki Pema and Choni Dhendup
- 3:05-3:30 Diversification in Pakistan
Sarfraz Khan Qureshi
- 3:30-4:00 COFFEE BREAK**
- 4:00-4:25 Nature and Extent of Agricultural Diversification in Bangladesh
Ferdous Alam
- 4:25-4:50 Agricultural Diversification in Nepal
Champak Pokharel
- 4:50-5:20 Discussants – Mohammad Jameel Khan and G.K. Chadha
- 5:20-6:00 Open Discussion
- 7:30-10:00 PM Dinner Reception**

November 23, 2002

- 9:00-12:20 Session III: Diversification, Vertical Integration and SPS Issues**
Chairperson: Sarfraz Khan Qureshi
- 9:00-9:40 Vertical Integration in Agriculture: Sector Studies (in Dairy, Poultry, Fisheries, and Fruits & Vegetables)
NCAP Team and Associates
(P.S. BIRTHAL, P.K. JOSHI, BHARAT RAMASWAMI, ARUN KUMAR, P. PARTHASARATHY RAO, ANJANI KUMAR)

- 9:40-10:10 Agro-industrialization in India
G. K. Chadha
- 10:10-10:40 COFFEE BREAK**
- 10:40-11:10 Trade, SPS Issues and Challenges of Certification
A. Rastogi and Ruchi Pant
- 11:10-11:40 Fresh Produce Export and SPS Issues in Bangladesh
Md. Saleh Ahmed and Abul Quasem
- 11:40-12:10 Discussants – Gokul Patnaik, Vijay Paul Sharma
- 12:10-1:00 Open Discussion
- 1:00-2:15 LUNCH**
- 2:15-4:05 **Session IV: Empowering Small holders for Participation in High Value Agriculture**
Chairperson: Vijay Vyas
- 2:15-2:40 Role of Information Technology in Empowering Farmers
Rajeswari Rao Pingali
- 2:40-3:05 Contract Farming and Price Bargaining
Bharat Ramaswami
- 3:05-3:35 Discussants – Abul Quasem, Sherub Gyaltshen and Rekha Mehra?
- 3:35-4:05 Open Discussion
- 4:05-4:35 COFFEE BREAK**
- 4:35-5:10 Session V: Panel Discussion on Policy Issues**
“Institutions and Infrastructure for Participation of Small holders in High Value Agriculture”
Chairperson: Abul Quasem
Panelists: _____, Ganesh Chettri and Ashok Gulati
- 5:10-5:45 Open Discussion
- 5:45-6:00 Closing Remarks: MoA-Bhutan/NCAP/IFPRI**

SOUTH ASIA INITIATIVE

**RGoB, MoA-NCAP-IFPRI Workshop on
"Agricultural Diversification in South Asia"
November 21-23, 2002**

Final List of Participants

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Agenda

Tuesday November 26

9:00-9:30

Introduction

Karma Dorji, Executive Director of Quality Control and Regulatory Services, Ministry of Agriculture

Garry Pursell, Consultant, South Asia Policy Research and Economic Management Group, World Bank

Ashok Gulati, Division Director, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

Suresh Babu, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI

9:30-10:30

Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) and International Agricultural Markets Background to, motivation, and main elements of AoA and other Uruguay Round Agreements (SPS, TBT, and IPR) distinguishing treatment of developed and developing countries.

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Ashok Gulati

Presenters:

William Martin, Lead Economist, Trade Team, Development Economics Research Group, World Bank

Rashid Kaukab, Director, South Centre Work Programme on WTO Issues

10:30-11:00

Tea/ Coffee

11:00-12:30

Developments and Issues in International Agricultural Trade Since the Uruguay Round. Trends in world commodity markets and prices; present and future role of China; Doha Round, US Farm Bill, EU and the CAP; developed and developing country negotiating positions; and South Asian negotiating positions

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Ashok Gulati

Presenters: Will Martin and Rashid Kaukab

12:30-2.00 Lunch

2.00-3:30 **Overview of Trade Policies and Agriculture in South Asia from the 1990s to the Present.** Macro-economic background; protection policies; input policies and subsidies; domestic support and stabilization policies; exports and export policies; "behind the border" policies and institutions; AoA and other WTO commitments of the South Asian countries; and agricultural trade liberalization and adjustment issues.

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Sanath Jayanetti, Consultant on International Trade Institute of Policy Studies

Presenters:

Ashok Gulati and Garry Pursell

3:15-3:30 Tea/Coffee

3:30-5:30 **Overview of Trade Policies and Agriculture in South Asia from the 1990s to the Present (continued)**

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Sanath Jayanetti

Presenters: Ashok Gulati and Garry Pursell

7:30-9:30 Dinner Reception at the Hotel Pagyel

Wednesday November 27

9:00-10:30 **Trade Policies, Food Security, and WTO**

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Nasiruddin Ahmed, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Bangladesh

Presenter: Ashok Gulati

10:30-11.00 Tea/ Coffee

11.00-12:30 **Case Study: Pakistan**
Agriculture and trade policies: Discussion of major current policies, reforms, and issues

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Will Martin

Presenters: Workshop participants from Pakistan coordinated by Muhammad Saeed, owner and editor, World Trade Review (Islamabad): previously Collector of Customs, Pakistan

12:30-2:00 Lunch

2.00-3.30 **Case Study: India**
Agriculture and trade policies: Discussion of major current policies, reforms, and issues

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Binod Karmacharya, Associate Professor, Tribhuvan University

Presenters: Workshop participants from India coordinated by Dr. Rajiv Mehta, Additional Adviser of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture

3:30-4.00 Tea/ Coffee

4.00-5.30 **Case Study: Bangladesh**
Agriculture and trade policies: Discussion of major current policies, reforms, and issues

Chairperson/Discussion Leader: Suresh Babu, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI

Presenters: Workshop participants from Bangladesh coordinated by Nasiruddin Ahmed, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

Thursday November 28

9.00-10.30 **Case Study: Sri Lanka**
Agriculture and trade policies: Discussion of major current policies, reforms, and issues

Chairperson/Discussion Leader: Gopal Naik, Visiting Professor, Indian Institute of Management

Presenters: Workshop participants from Sri Lanka coordinated by Dr. Terrence Abeysekera, Senior Agricultural Economist, World Bank Colombo office.

10.30-11.00 Tea/ Coffee

11.00-12.30 **Case Study: Nepal**

Agriculture and trade policies: Discussion of major current policies, reforms, and issues including WTO accession negotiations

Chairperson/Discussion Leader: Sarfraz Khan Qureshi , Former Director, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics

Presenters: Workshop participants from Nepal coordinated by Bishwambher Pyakuryal, Professor, Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University

12.30-2.0 Lunch

2.00-3.30 **Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Issues in South Asia.**

Basic Principles, Doha Round issues, South Asian policies on imports and exports

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Ashok Gulati

Presenter: Digby Gascoine, Consultant; previously Director, Policy and International Division, Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, 1994-2000

3:30-4.00 Tea/ Coffee

3:15-5:00 **SPS Panel discussion**

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Ashok Gulati

Panel Members:

Ajay Rastogi, ECOSERVE

Mohammed Saqib, Fellow, Rajiv Gandhi Institute For Contemporary Studies

Friday November 29

9:00-10:30 **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Agriculture in South Asia: Rules and Issues**

Chairperson/Discussion Leader: Will Martin

Presenter: Bibek Debroy, Director, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation

10:30-11.00 Tea/ Coffee

11.00-12.30 **IPR Panel discussion**

Chairperson/Discussion Leader: Will Martin

Panel Members:

Rashid Kaukab

Anitha Ramanna, Visiting Research Associate, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research

12:30-2:00 Lunch

2.00-3.30 **Case Study: Bhutan**

Agriculture and trade policies: Discussion of major current policies, reforms, and issues including WTO accession

Chairperson/ Discussion Leader: Garry Pursell

Presenters: Workshop participants from Bhutan coordinated by Deki Pema, Planning Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture – Thimpu

3.30-4.0 Tea/ Coffee

4.00-5.30 **Workshop wrap-up and general discussion**

Chairperson: Ashok Gulati

Saturday November 30

Field trip to Bhutan Agro-industries in Thimphu and the indigenous traditional medicinal institutes

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