

Addressing Barriers to Rice Seeds Trade between India and Bangladesh (RISTE Project)

Advocacy Strategy in Bangladesh and India

1. Problems

(Why is advocacy needed?)

- Lack of formal trade and knowledge sharing between Bangladesh and India in rice seeds, particularly in High Yielding Variety (HYV) rice seeds
- Lack of consensus among the relevant stakeholders with regard to potential benefits and constraints relating to HYV rice seeds trade and knowledge-sharing between Bangladesh and India

2. Objectives

(What we want to achieve to address the Problems)

- Building consensus among the relevant stakeholders to create an enabling environment for formal trade and knowledge-sharing between India and Bangladesh in HYV rice seeds
- Enhanced formal trade and knowledge-sharing between India and Bangladesh in HYV rice seeds

3. Stakeholders (Change Agents) & Tools for Consensus Building

(As identified in the Results Framework of the RISTE Project)

<i>Stakeholder Groups</i>	<i>Advocacy Tools¹ & their Use</i>
1. Government officials (Policy-makers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respective RISTE project team in Bangladesh and India are to pursue and organise meetings with relevant government officials to present findings from the project. The tools for advocacy include shorter versions of research studies such as baseline report, communique, memorandum, action alerts, briefing papers, recommendatory papers, media articles, etc. Longer version of research reports such as monographs and survey-based studies produced by CUTS and project partners in Bangladesh and India will also be used.• Members of the respective RISTE project team in Bangladesh and India will participate/ present project findings in major policy discussions, annual meetings organised by institutions/organisations working in the area of HYV rice seeds.

¹ Additionally, the relevant stakeholders will be added to the online RISTE Project Forum to keep them in the loop of the project's progress and to encourage discussion on relevant issues.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respective RISTE project team will organise one to one and group meetings with the relevant stakeholders, which will be based on research findings highlighting benefits and constraints of cross-border formal trade in HYV rice seeds and knowledge-sharing between Bangladesh and India. • Respective RISTE project team will create a network of organisations/institutions such as seed associations and select seed traders in Bangladesh and India, relevant research and advocacy organisation, and other experts which could influence governments in Bangladesh and India so as to advocate for necessary policy and practice changes.
<p>2. State and country level seed associations, relevant chamber of commerce such as India-Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry, seeds' traders including exporters and importers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be regular interaction with identified organisations/agencies to discuss and share findings/outputs which will be produced under the project. • There will be regular sharing of project findings in the form of baseline report, communique, memorandum, action alerts, briefing papers, recommendatory paper, media articles, monographs, survey-based reports produced by CUTS and project partners in Bangladesh and India emphasising the benefits and constraints relating to HYV rice seeds trade and knowledge sharing between Bangladesh and India • Respective RISTE project team will organise one to one and group meetings with the relevant individuals and groups. • Respective RISTE project team will collaborate with identified organisations/agencies to produce a joint communique highlighting the importance of cross-border formal trade in HYV rice seeds and knowledge-sharing between Bangladesh and India.
<p>3. Public/private organisations/institutions/universities engaged in research, development and distribution of HYV rice seeds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respective RISTE project team will invite relevant organisations/institutions/universities to participate and contribute in meetings and in dissemination of project findings, especially highlighting benefits and constraints relating to HYV rice seeds trade and knowledge sharing between Bangladesh and India.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of the respective RISTE project team will participate and present project findings in major policy discussions, annual meetings organised by private organisations/institutions/universities engaged in research, development and distribution of HYV rice seeds. • Respective RISTE project team will organise one to one and group meetings with individuals and groups. • Respective RISTE project team will urge the identified individuals/organisations/institutions/universities to write and advocate for necessary policy and practice changes relating to benefits and constraints of HYV rice seeds trade and knowledge sharing between Bangladesh and India.
<p>4. Civil society, community based organisations working in the area of rice seeds and farmer groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respective RISTE project team will disseminate the project findings and other related documents. • Respective RISTE project team will organise focused group meetings highlighting the benefits and constraints relating to HYV rice seeds trade and knowledge sharing between Bangladesh and India. • Respective RISTE project team will reach out to farmers and other relevant non-state actors (civil society and community-based organisations) through popular media, emphasising the benefits of the use of HYV rice seeds and benefits and constraints relating to HYV rice seeds trade and knowledge sharing between Bangladesh and India.