



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



OUTPUT OF THE MEETINGS (PRESENTATIONS, AGENDA, MINUTES OF MEETING)

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) October
2023



WORLD BANK GROUP

Deliverable 1.1.4 on

Output of the meetings

(Presentations, Agenda, Minutes of Meeting)

Works Package 74, Sub-activity 1.4

Conduct meetings with regulatory agencies of other Ministries dealing with food safety as well as food testing laboratories to obtain a big picture of the entire food safety system in the country.

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Department of Livestock Services

Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

Bangladesh

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AMI	Anti Mortem Inspection
AMR	Antimicrobial Resistance
BFSA	Bangladesh Food Safety Authority
BSTI	Bangladesh Standardization and Testing Institute
CAC	Codex Alimentaria Commission
CA	Competent Authority
CC	City Corporations
DLO	District Livestock Officer
DLS	Department of Livestock Services
GAHP	Good Animal Husbandry Practices
GHP	Good Hygiene Practices
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point
LDDP	Livestock and Dairy Development Project
MoFL	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
PMI	Post Mortem Inspection
SoP	Standard Operational Procedure
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WOAH/OIE	World Organization for Animal Health (formerly the Organization Internationale des Epizooties)

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INTRODUCTION

Food safety is a very much prioritized global issue now a days. Considerable number of human diseases comes through contaminated food. This contamination takes place at various stages of the value chain from production, through the transportation, trading, marketing, processing to the consumer handling process. Especially, animal origin food is more prone to food safety hazard, as it needs various inputs like a variety of feed ingredients, water, vaccines, medicines, disinfectants, pesticides, preservatives, etc.

Bangladesh has a considerable development in the production of animal origin foods: meat, milk and eggs. From a very vulnerable supply situation during the independence of Bangladesh, now almost the self-sufficiency has been achieved. To focus on more production, the safety and hygiene issue was not rightly addressed.

Now considering the global context, food safety situation is gaining importance. In addition, when the entrepreneurs are trying to export meat or meat products to other countries, they are facing the hurdle of food safety compliances.

Under this context, Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP) of Department of Livestock Services signed an agreement with United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) under the title 'Gap analysis of existing legislation, drafting legal amendments, development of baseline data of food safety, establishment of animal origin food inspection program and quality assurance scheme: Package 74 of The Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP) UNIDO Reference No. 180125 Grant no.: IDA 6330 BD'. The purpose of this agreement is to suggest ways to improve food safety situation in the country.

To assure safety of animal origin food, DLS has a very important role. But not only DLS, other regulators of different ministries have also important role. Regarding slaughtering procedure and meat shop management, local government organizations play an important role. Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA) has an overarching coordination role. Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute (BSTI) has important role in standard setting. Directorate General, Drug Administration (DGDA) works on quality assurance and rational usage on drugs.

It is very essential that DLS has a good coordination with these organization to i) strengthening joint effort to meet the challenge of improving food safety situation, ii) to avoid duplication or overlapping of activities, iii) to minimize gaps in between the roles of regulators and iv) to optimize the utilization of resources through close collaboration.

This comprehensive approach provides a clearer macroscopic view of the country's food safety system, which will be instrumental in the successful execution of the LDDP UNIDO project. Furthermore, the insights gleaned from these meetings will contribute significantly towards the continuous improvement and enhancement of food safety measures in the country.

Considering the scenario, UNIDO from the very beginning, took initiative to communicate with all different regulators along with LDDP and DLS. There are some remarkable successes in this regard, which will be compiled in this report.

MEETINGS AND CONSULTATIONS HELD WITH RELEVANT COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

UNIDO from very biggening of its activity to perform the tasks of 'Gap analysis of existing legislation, drafting legal amendments, development of baseline data of food safety, establishment of animal origin food inspection program and quality assurance scheme: Package 74 of The Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP), maintained close collaboration with the LDDP project and DLS. Among other activities, it was a priority task of UNIDO to communicate with regulatory organizations of other ministries than the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL), in collaboration with DLS, to identify their roles and responsibilities, their capacities in different areas, their laboratory capacities to identify different food safety hazards.

Therefore, in this segment of the document, a comprehensive summation of dialogues conducted with pertinent stakeholders within the sector of food safety in Bangladesh is presented. These interactions were crucial for understanding the functioning of food safety systems. Most of these meetings were organized with the intention of gaining an in-depth understanding of the activities operated by these actors within the food safety landscape. This involved delving into the specifics of their roles, operations, and methods employed in ensuring food safety standards are upheld. Furthermore, these discussions also aimed to identify potential spheres for collaboration and intervention.

1. Meeting with Project Director, LDDP

As a part of this activity, as well to share the overall activity of UNIDO-LDDP project, the UNIDO national expert team met Project Director (Joint Secretary) Mr. Md. Abdur Rahim and the LDDP PMU on January 01, 2022. The participants of LDDP and the outcomes of the meeting was as follows:

Date	01.12.2021		
Location	PMU, LDDP, DLS		
Objectives	To share ideas with PMU, LDDP about the activities of UNIDO LDDP team and seek cooperation for activities		
Participants	1	Mr. Md. Abdur Rahim,	Project Director (Joint Secretary)
	2	Dr. Md. Golam Rabbani,	Chief Technical Coordinator (CTC)
	3	Dr. Hiranmoy Biswas, DPD	Deputy Project Director (DPD)
	4	Dr. Md. Shahjahan Ali Khondaker,	Project Management Specialist (PMS)
	5	Mr. Md. Misbahuzzaman Chandan,	Food safety and Quality Control Expert.
	6	Dr. Arbinda Kumar Saha	Animal Health Expert (National)
	7	Kalyan Kumar Fouzder	Training and Extension Expert
	8	Mr. Jahid Hossain	National Dairy Expert
	9	Brigadier General Md. Abdul Hannan,	Animal Reproductive Health Expert
	10	Kh. Zahir Hossain	Senior Mentoring and Evaluation Specialist

Activities carried out At 10.00 AM- 12.00 PM UNIDO national experts team met Project Director, CTC, LDDP, DLS and other LDDP officers and experts to share ideas of about the activities of newly recruited UNIDO LDDP team to perform the responsibilities of under the LDDP project. Discussion also took place about the upcoming UNIDO international team mission to Bangladesh. The UNIDO team sought support from the LDDP. UNIDO team informed that they were going to start discussion with different stakeholders. They expected support from LDDP and DLS regarding the issue. LDDP assured all sort of support.

2. Meeting with Fisheries Inspection and Quality Control (FIQC), DoF, Dhaka

Dates	19.12.2021														
Locations	Director, Fisheries Inspection and Quality Control (FIQC), DoF, Dhaka														
Objectives	Understand activities performed by the organization and collection of documents														
Participants	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Md. Mohibullah</td> <td>Director, Quality control & Inspection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Dr. Niwaj Uddin</td> <td>Deputy Director</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Dr. Maksudul Haque</td> <td>Senior Assistant Director</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Sujit Kumar Chatterjee</td> <td>District Fisheries Officer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Md. Sirajul Islam</td> <td>Senior Assistant Director</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Md. Mizanur Rahman</td> <td>Senior Assistant Director</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Md. Alamgir</td> <td>Inspector</td> </tr> </table>	1. Md. Mohibullah	Director, Quality control & Inspection	2. Dr. Niwaj Uddin	Deputy Director	3. Dr. Maksudul Haque	Senior Assistant Director	4. Sujit Kumar Chatterjee	District Fisheries Officer	5. Md. Sirajul Islam	Senior Assistant Director	6. Md. Mizanur Rahman	Senior Assistant Director	7. Md. Alamgir	Inspector
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3. Dr. Maksudul Haque	Senior Assistant Director														
4. Sujit Kumar Chatterjee	District Fisheries Officer														
5. Md. Sirajul Islam	Senior Assistant Director														
6. Md. Mizanur Rahman	Senior Assistant Director														
7. Md. Alamgir	Inspector														
Activities carried out	<p>Meeting with Director, Fisheries Inspection and Quality Control (FIQC), in the Department of Fisheries. A number of scientists of the wing participated in the meeting. It was informed that this FIQC is a dedicated regulatory body for inspection and sampling. They inspect and collected samples as a part of National Residue Control Plan (NRCP) following a national plan and send sample to three designated Quality Control lab at Dhaka, Chattogram and Khulna. The lab is under a separate entity and reports independently. It was a good experience for our team.</p> <p>Understood the organizational structure reformed to strengthen regulatory activities. Separation of field inspection system with the laboratory activities. Have idea about overall activities of FIQC. Strengthen collaboration with UNIDO team.</p>														
Achievements/ Results															

3. Meeting with Dhaka South City Corporation

Dates	19.12.2021								
Locations	Chief Executive Officer's office, Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC)								
Objectives	Understand activities performed by the organization and collection of documents								
Participants	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Farid Ahmed</td> <td>Chief Executive Authority (Additional Secretary)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr. Fazle Shamsul Kabir</td> <td>Chief Health Officer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aminul Islam Badal</td> <td>Veterinary Officer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr. S M Shafiqul Islam</td> <td>Veterinary Officer</td> </tr> </table>	Farid Ahmed	Chief Executive Authority (Additional Secretary)	Dr. Fazle Shamsul Kabir	Chief Health Officer	Aminul Islam Badal	Veterinary Officer	Dr. S M Shafiqul Islam	Veterinary Officer
Farid Ahmed	Chief Executive Authority (Additional Secretary)								
Dr. Fazle Shamsul Kabir	Chief Health Officer								
Aminul Islam Badal	Veterinary Officer								
Dr. S M Shafiqul Islam	Veterinary Officer								

Activities carried out	At 2.30 PM-3.30 PM, meeting with Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Health Officer and Veterinary Officer of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC), to share ideas the meat inspection procedure, legal aspects etc. on 19.01.2022. International expert John Woodford accompanied the team. The CEO informed that a new slaughter house has been constructed at Hazaribag, Dhaka with a capacity of slaughtering 900 animals a day. He also informed that they have developed a food testing laboratory also in Fulbaria, Dhaka. The city corporation is going to recruit 5 veterinarians in addition to existing two for strengthening meat inspection, he added.
Achievements/ Results	Have idea about overall activities of Dhaka South City Corporation about food safety related activities regarding animal origin food. Strengthen collaboration with UNIDO team.

4. Meeting with IEDCR: 13.12.2021

On the 13th of December, 2021, a meeting took place at the Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) in Mohakhali. The discussion was held between Prof. Dr. Tahmina Shirin and the UNIDO national team. The primary objective of this reunion was to gain a comprehensive understanding of the National Action Plan for Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Surveillance (2017-2022) and the National AMR Surveillance Strategy of Bangladesh.

The agenda of the meeting included an extensive discussion about the mentioned National Action Plan and Surveillance Strategy. Participants delved into the specifics of the surveillance system and engaged in an exchange about the nationwide surveillance network. These discussions were aimed at fostering a deeper understanding of the strategic approach to AMR surveillance in the context of Bangladesh's national health landscape.

The meeting resulted in the collection of related documents which not only aids in the further understanding of the issue but also serves as a valuable resource for future reference and study.

5. Meeting with Fleming Fund Country Grant, DAI, Dhaka: 14.12.2021

On December 14, 2021, a meeting took place with the Fleming Fund Country Grant team at the DAI, in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The aim was to exchange ideas between the Project Management Unit (PMU), Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP), and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) LDDP team. Participants included Prof. Dr. Nitish Debnath, Country Lead for DAI, Dr. Kazi M. Kamaruddin, a specialist in Laboratory Capacity and the UNIDO national team.

The meeting, held from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, focused on understanding the organization's activities in food safety and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) surveillance. It was revealed that the organization collaborates with various government labs and aims to strengthen their capacity. The meeting successfully enhanced understanding of the Fleming Fund grant's activities in Bangladesh, providing a basis for future collaborations. It achieved its goal of exchanging ideas and deepening insights into the organization's efforts in food safety and AMR surveillance.

6. Meeting with Director Admin, Department of Livestock Services (DLS): 27.12.2021

On the 27th of December, 2021, a constructive meeting was held at the Department of Livestock Services (DLS) in Farmgate, Dhaka. The primary purpose of this gathering was to share ideas with the Director of DLS about the activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization's Livestock and Dairy Development Project (UNIDO LDDP) team.

The participants included Dr. Debashis Das, Director of Administration; Dr. Md. Mahbubul Alam Bhuiyan, Deputy Director of Administration; Dr. Md. Shahinur Alam, Deputy Director of Health; and Dr. Mohammad Shahadat Hossain, Upazila Livestock Officer (L/R Post) in the Planning and Evaluation Cell.

The meeting took place from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. During this period, UNIDO national experts met with the Director of Administration at DLS to discuss the activities of the newly recruited UNIDO LDDP team and their responsibilities under the LDDP project. There was also a discussion regarding the selection of a focal point from the DLS site for UNIDO's Food Safety and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) package. This meeting resulted in several key achievements. One of the most significant outcomes was the establishment of a common understanding between the DLS senior management and the UNIDO team regarding UNIDO's activities in the frame of this project.

7. Meeting with Central Disease Investigation Laboratory (CDIL): 20.01.2022

On January 20, 2022, a significant meeting was held at the Central Disease Investigation Laboratory (CDIL) in Dhaka. The main objective of this gathering was to gain an understanding of the activities performed by this organization. The attendees of the meeting were Dr. Md. Golam Azam Choudhury, a Principal Scientific Officer (PSO); Dr. Sukesh Baydho, Dr. Md. Sadekuzzaman, and Dr. Mrs. Rabeya Begum, all serving as Upazila Livestock Officers (LR).

From 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM, the participants visited the CDIL and interacted with the Principal Scientific Officer and other scientists from the Department of Livestock Services. During this session, they became acquainted with the various activities carried out at the laboratory. It was revealed that the CDIL was actively carrying out surveillance for several diseases, including Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), Brucellosis, Rabies, and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). However, it was noted that these were project-based activities and that there was no national surveillance program in place.

The meeting proved successful in achieving its objectives. The participants gained insights into the activities performed by the CDIL, particularly in the areas of zoonotic disease control and AMR surveillance.

8. Meeting with Livestock Research Institute, DLS, Mahakhali, Dhaka: 25.01.2022

On January 25, 2022, a meeting was held at the Office of the Director of Research, Training, and Evaluation, Department of Livestock Services (DLS) in Mahakhali, Dhaka. The goal was to understand the Livestock Research Institute's activities. Participants included Dr. Md. Abdul Hai, Dr. Md. Abu Sufian, Dr. Md. Boizer Rahman, and Dr. Soheli Jahan Mou.

From 01:00 PM to 02:00 PM, international experts, John Woodford and Michael Barry supported by the UNIDO national team, visited the Livestock Research Institute, discussing Veterinary Public Health activities and the curriculum for para-professionals. They also inquired about the registration process for para-professionals by the Bangladesh Veterinary Council, learning that it has yet to start.

The meeting provided insights into the para-professional curriculum and Veterinary Public Health activities at the Livestock Research Institute. It highlighted challenges in the registration process for para-professionals by the Bangladesh Veterinary Council. The visit contributed to a better understanding of ongoing initiatives and future plans at the Livestock Research Institute.

9. Meeting with DGDA

Dates	22/12/2021
Locations	Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA)
Objectives	Understand activities performed by the organization i.e. responsibility, regulatory function on production, importation and marketing of medicine, drugs, vaccines, and medical device both of Human and veterinary.
Participants	Major General Md. Mahbubur Rahman, DG Md. Salahuddin, Deputy Director
Activities carried out	Participated in a meeting with the organization. Got idea about activities performed by the organization
Achievements /Results	Received several related documents; know about scope of working with DLS. Collected several acts & legislation i.e. The Drug Act 1940; The Drug Rules 1945; The Drug Rules 1946 and their amendments; The Drug (Control) Ordinance 1982 and its amendments.

10. Meeting with Director General, DLS on 27.12.2021

Dates	27.12.2021															
Locations	Department of Livestock Services, Farmgate, Dhaka															
Objectives	To share ideas with DLS about the activities of UNIDO LDDP team and seek cooperation to perform activities															
Participants	<table> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Dr. Monjur Mohammad Shahjada</td> <td>Director General</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Dr. Debashis Das</td> <td>Director, Admin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Dr. Md. Mahbubul Alam Bhuiyan</td> <td>Deputy Director, Admin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Dr.Md. Shahinur Alam</td> <td>Deputy Director, Health</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Dr. Mohammad Shahadat Hossain</td> <td>Upazila Livestock Officer (L/R Post) Planning and Evaluation Cell</td> </tr> </table>	1	Dr. Monjur Mohammad Shahjada	Director General	2	Dr. Debashis Das	Director, Admin	3	Dr. Md. Mahbubul Alam Bhuiyan	Deputy Director, Admin	4	Dr.Md. Shahinur Alam	Deputy Director, Health	5	Dr. Mohammad Shahadat Hossain	Upazila Livestock Officer (L/R Post) Planning and Evaluation Cell
1	Dr. Monjur Mohammad Shahjada	Director General														
2	Dr. Debashis Das	Director, Admin														
3	Dr. Md. Mahbubul Alam Bhuiyan	Deputy Director, Admin														
4	Dr.Md. Shahinur Alam	Deputy Director, Health														
5	Dr. Mohammad Shahadat Hossain	Upazila Livestock Officer (L/R Post) Planning and Evaluation Cell														

Activities carried out	At 11.00 AM- 12.00 PM meeting of UNIDO national experts with Project Director, CTC, LDDP, DLS and other LDDP officers and experts to share ideas of about the activities of newly recruited UNIDO LDDP team to perform the responsibilities of under the LDDP project. Discussion also took place about the upcoming UNIDO international team mission to Bangladesh. The UNIDO team sought support from the DG, DLS team informed that they were going to start discussions with different stakeholders. They expected support from LDDP and DLS regarding the issue. LDDP assured all sorts of support.
Achievements / Results	Common understanding with DLS senior management about the UNIDO activities. DLS assured all sort of support.

11. Meeting with BFSA

Dates	05.01.2022
Locations	BFSA office, Shahbag, Dhaka
Objectives	To understand activities performed by the organization and collection of documents
Participants	

Md. Abdul Kayowm Sarker	Chairman and Additional Secretary
Md Rejaul Karim	Member
Monjur Morshed Ahmed	Member
Prof. Dr. Md. Abdul Alim	Member
Dr. Sahadev Chandra Saha	Director
Mohammad Atiqur Rahman Majumder	Additional Director
Ms Nahida Sultana	Deputy Director
Ahmed Salman Sirajee	Scientific Officer
Sk Mohammad Ferdous Arafat	Law officer
Avirup Saha	PS to Chairman

Activities carried out	At 11.00 AM- 01.00 PM Meeting with Bangladesh <i>Food Safety Authority</i> (BFSA) under the chairship of Chairman BFSA. It was an introductory meeting for experience sharing on food safety & AMR activities & involvement of UNIDO/LDDP. UNIDO team explained their activities and necessity of its linkage with BFSA. BFSA officers described their activities and linkage with other organizations for enforcement of their activities. UNIDO team made a presentation of activities (Annex-1). The UNIDO-LDDP team met another two meetings as follow up meetings.
Achievements	Understood the mandate of BFSA. Their role in coordinating activities of different organizations like DLS, DoF, BSTI etc. Collected documents of Food Safety Act 2013 and some rules.
Results	Have idea about overall activities of BFSA. Strengthen collaboration with UNIDO team. (The minutes of the meeting is attached as Annex-2)

12. Meeting with the person of Newly built slaughterhouse from city corporation

Dates	19.01.2022
Locations	Newly constructed Slaughter house of south city corporation (DSCC), Hazaribag, Dhaka
Objectives	Understand activities performed by the organization
Participants	Aminul Islam Badal Veterinary Officer Dr. S M Shafiqul Islam Veterinary Officer
Activities carried out	At 2.30 PM-3.30 PM, visited newly constructed Slaughter house of south city corporation (DSCC) and vet veterinary officer in charge Dr. Aminul Islam Badal. Dr. John Woodford accompanied the team. The structure developed for the slaughterhouse was observed. It is yet to start its activities.
Achievements / Results	Have idea about the structure of the slaughterhouse.

13. Meeting with Modern food testing laboratory and training Center of DSCC, Dhaka

Dates	20.01.2022
Locations	Modern food testing laboratory and training Center of DSCC, Dhaka
Objectives	Understand activities performed by the organization
Participants	Golam Sarwar Team Leader Dr. Fazle Shamsul Kabir Chief Health Officer Elias Jahedi Chemist Aminul Islam Badal Veterinary Officer
Activities carried out	On, 12.00 PM-01.00 PM, visited modern food testing laboratory and training Center of DSCC. The lab gets mainly enforcement food sample from the inspectors for test. All these are legal samples. No surveillance system in place. It performs basic (Moisture, ash, fat, CF, pH etc.) tests, microbial (E. coli, Salmonella, Shigella, Aerobic Plate count, Total Coliform, etc.) tests and residue (heavy metals) tests.
Achievements/ Results	Have idea about the activities performed by the laboratory testing of samples about food safety

14. Meeting with Quality Control (QC) lab of Department of Fisheries at Savar, Dhaka: 24.01.2022

On January 24, 2022, a visit was conducted at the Quality Control (QC) lab of the Department of Fisheries in Savar, Dhaka. The aim was to understand the activities performed by this organization. Participants included Dr. Md. Manik Mia, Quality Assurance Manager, Ms. Tanzinah

Nasrin, Microbiologist, Mithun Karmakar, Biochemist, Md. Barkatul Alam, Assistant Director, Mohammad Jahangir Alam, Fisheries Technologist, and Marzia Sultana, Assistant Director .

The visit took place from 12:00 AM to 02:00 AM, where both national and international experts had the opportunity to observe the lab's operations. The Quality Assurance Manager and other scientists clearly explained their procedures. They showcased the planned food safety surveillance system in place at the department.

As a result of the visit, the team gained insight into the laboratory's activities and the effectiveness of their organized food safety surveillance system.

15. Meeting with Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, Sher-e Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka

Dates	25.01.2022		
Locations	Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, Sher-e Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka		
Objectives	Understand activities performed by the organization		
Participants	Sl No.	Name	Designation
		Prof. Dr. Md. Shahidur Rashid Bhuiyan	Vice Chancellor
		Prof. Dr. Lam yea Asad	Dean, Faculty of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine
		Prof. Dr. Anwarul Haq Beg	Chairman, Poultry Science
		Prof. KBM Saiful Islam	Chairman, Medicine and Public Health
		Dr. Mofassera Akhter	Chairman, Animal Nutrition, Genetics and Breeding
		Dr. Md. Asaduzzaman	Chairman, Dairy Science
		Dr. Md. Mosaraf Hossain	Chairman, Anatomy, Histology and Physiology
		Dr. Mrs. Sharifa Zahan	Chairman, Pharmacology and Toxicology
		Dr. Md. Anwarul Haque	Chairman, Surgery and Theriogenology
Activities carried out	10.00 AM -12.00 AM, international experts, John and Michael along with national experts visited the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, Sher-e Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka. Dean, Mrs. Lam Yea Asad and head of Departments were present. Issues like curriculum development procedure, harmonization of curriculum with other veterinary schools, monitoring and registration by Bangladesh Veterinary Council and compliance of day one competency of OIE were discussed. Later the undertook a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Md. Shahidur Rashid Bhuiyan.		
Achievements/ Results	Have idea about curriculum development procedure, harmonization of curriculum with other veterinary schools, monitoring and registration by Bangladesh Veterinary Council and compliance of day one competency of OIE of the Institute.		

16. Meeting with Milk Vita at Pallabi, Dhaka

Dates	23.01.2022
Locations	Milk Vita at Pallabi, Dhaka
Objectives	Understand activities performed by the organization
Participants	Md. Mustafiz Ahmed DGM operations, Mst Rehana Begum AGM Quality Assurance
Activities carried out	At 06.00 PM-07.00 AM visited Dhaka office of Bengal Meat Slaughterhouse. This is the only ISO certified slaughterhouse in the country. They follow safety protocols. Comply with DLS and other legislations. They follow BSTI standards. They export to Maldives and some other countries. They are exploring possibilities to export to other countries. Due to lack of FMD free zone and some other compliances, they can not export to some countries. Local consumers are reluctant to pay for quality meat. Situation is changing slowly.
Achievements/Results	Understood the quality assurance procedures of Milk Vita. Prospects and problems of establishing slaughterhouse in Bangladesh.

17. Meeting with Quality Control (QC) laboratories of Department of Livestock Services at Savar, Dhaka

Dates	24.01.2022
Locations	Quality Control (QC) lab of Department of Livestock Services at Savar, Dhaka
Objectives	Understand activities performed by the organization
Participants	Dr. Md. Mostofa Kamal Director of Lab Dr. Md. Ab. Hannan CSO Dr. Al Amin and others 5-6 Scientists & Officers Microbiologist
Activities carried out	At 12.00 AM-02.00 AM all national and international experts visited Quality Control (QC) lab of Department of Livestock services. Quality Assurance & control and other scientists were there. They described their operational procedures clearly. This department has a plan food safety surveillance system and quality control 7 assurance of food of animal origin and also animal food.
Achievements/Results	Have idea about the activities done by the laboratory.

18. Meeting with Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI), Savar, Dhaka

Dates	24.01.2022
Locations	Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI), Savar, Dhaka
Objectives	Understand activities performed by the organization
Participants	Dr. Md. Abdus Samad, Chief Scientific Officer, BLRI, Savar, Dhaka

Activities carried out	At 02.30-04.30 all national and international experts except John Woodford visited Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI). This is a well facilitated laboratory for microbial, residual and AMR testing. But linkage with extension department is poor.
Achievements / Results	Have idea about the activities done by the laboratory. Poor research-extension linkage needs attention

19. Meeting with Director Admin, DLS regarding PVS gap analysis: 28.01.2022

On January 18, 2022, a meeting was held at the Directorate of Livestock Services (DLS) in Khamarbari, Dhaka. The objective of this meeting was to organize a self-evaluation of the Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS). Participants included several directors, deputy directors, and officers from various departments within the DLS.

The meeting took place from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM, with all national and international experts in attendance, except for John Woodford. The group discussed formulating three teams comprising senior and mid-level DLS officers to evaluate the current state of veterinary services. A questionnaire developed by John Woodford was thoroughly discussed with the officers and distributed for self-evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the Veterinary Services.

The meeting successfully resulted in the formation of DLS expert groups for the self-evaluation of PVS. The prescribed questionnaires were shared, and the information collected will be used to identify gaps in the analysis of animal origin.

Later a study was conducted on Food Safety Incident Recording and Reporting System of different Competent Authorities:

20. Dhaka South City Corporation

Dates	16.05.2022	
Locations	Newly built slaughter house, DSCC	
Objectives	Ante- and post-mortem inspection, delegated by DLS under Animal Health Act (2005);	
Participants	Md. Anisuzzaman Khan	Veterinary Inspector
	Md. Shafiqul Islam	Veterinary Inspector
	Md. Farid Ahmed	Veterinary Inspector
Activities carried out	The sub technical staffs were interviewed. A pre-set questionnaire was filled in by them. It was found that there is no structural ante- and post mortem examination is taking place in the city corporation. Some visual examinations are done sometimes. It is expected that when the newly built slaughter house will go in operation, such examination may start.	
Achievements / Results	Have idea about the current slaughter practices.	

21. Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute (BSTI)

Dates	09.05.2022	
Locations	Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute	
Objectives	Setting and enforcement of food safety standards in collaboration with other Competent authorities	
Participants	Director General Mr. Arafat Hossain Sarker	BSTI Assistant Director
Activities carried out	There was a good discussion with DG BSTI. Recording and event management procedure was identified and recorded in the questionnaire for further analysis	
Achievements / Results	Recording system in the BSTI was understood. It was found that all recordings were paper based, through which risk-based event management is difficult. They informed that they were on way to shift to on line recording. The UNIDO-LDDP team met two times as follow up meeting.	

22. BFSA

Date	30.05.2022	
Location	Bangladesh Food Safety Authority	
Objectives	Coordination of regulatory functions / support to evaluation / revision of food safety standards	
Participants	Mr. Sahadeb Chandra Saha Mr. Amitav Mondol	Director Additional Director
Activities carried out	There was a good discussion with BFSA officers. Recording and event management procedure was identified and recorded in the questionnaire for further analysis	
Achievements / Results	Recording system in the BFSA was understood. It was found that all recordings were paper based, through which risk-based event management is difficult. They informed that they were on way to shift to on line recording	

23. Institute of Public Health (IPH), Department of Health Services (DGDHS)

UNIDO-LDDP team met with the Director and one Scientist of IPH in the office of director, Mohakhali, Dhaka. constructive meeting was held The primary purpose of this gathering was to share ideas with the Director of IPH about the activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization's Livestock and Dairy Development Project (UNIDO LDDP) team and the role of IPH in the food safety issues specially animal origin food (milk, meat etc.)

Director informed us food safety inspectorial activities are no longer with IPH rather it's transfer to BFSA.

INTERVIEWS WITH COMPETENT AUTHORITIES FOR GAP ASSESSMENT ON FOOD SAFETY INCIDENT RECORDING AND REPORTING SYSTEM

In the frame of key activity 1.3 “Develop baseline data on current level of food safety in relevant value chains”, a questionnaire was formulated in collaboration with the UNIDO team. The objective of this questionnaire was to gather information regarding the existing practices within the Directorate of Livestock Services (DLS) and among some of the significant agencies who share responsibility for ensuring food safety of animal-origin products. This data collection is aimed at accumulating sufficient information to develop a gap assessment on the food safety incident recording and reporting system.

Provided below is a table that presents the authorities that were contacted, along with details of the individuals assigned the responsibility of completing the questionnaire:

Food Safety data collection Activities	Respondent	Date
DLS – Headquarters, Division, District and Upazila levels –		
Registration / licensing of slaughter facilities at Division (9) District (64) and Upazila (492) levels;	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of milk traders, milk collection centres at City, Municipality, District / Upazila levels.	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of milk processing establishments:	Deputy Director, Animal Health DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration and licensing of animal feed businesses:	Deputy Director, Farms, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of rendering plants	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of animal breeding establishments	Director, Artificial Insemination, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration of commercial / semi-commercial poultry farms with/without slaughter facilities.	Deputy Director, Farms, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of animal transporters	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Animal movement permit issuance	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Border control, quarantine, Issuance of import permits for live animals and animal products	District Livestock Officer, Dhaka Animal Quarantine Officer, HSJIA	19.04.2022
Issuance of Export certificates for animals or animal products	Deputy Director, HRD, DLS, Dhaka	20.04.2022
BCS Livestock Academy		
Human resource management	Director, BCS Livestock academy, Savar, Dhaka	10.05.2022

Central Disease Investigation Laboratory (CDIL), DLS		
Provide official diagnostic tests and analyses for detection / confirmation of suspected notifiable diseases, food safety testing services	Principal Scientific Officer, CDIL, Dhaka	16.05.2022

District Livestock Office, DLS, Gazipur		
Registration / licensing of slaughter facilities at District (64) and Upazila (492) levels;	District Livestock Officer, Gazipur	17.05.2022
Registration of commercial / semi-commercial poultry farms with/without slaughter facilities.	District Livestock Officer, Gazipur	17.05.2022
Registration of meat slaughter/distribution and retail sale outlets	District Livestock Officer, Gazipur	17.05.2022
QC laboratory, DLS		
Provide facilities for testing safety and quality of feeds, medicines and for detection of residues / contaminants in animal products destined for domestic consumption / export	Dr. M. A. Hannan, Principal Scientific Officer, QC La, Savar, Dhaka	10/05.2022

Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute –		
Provide facilities and services to undertake research and development of animal vaccines and other diagnostic / analytical testing services	Chief Scientific Officer, Animal Health Division, BLRI	23.05.2022

City Corporations / Municipal authorities – Dhaka South City Corporation		
Ante- and post-mortem inspection, delegated by DLS under Animal Health Act (2005);	Md. Anisuzzaman Khan, Md. Shafiqul Islam and Md. Farid Ahmed Veterinary Inspectors	16.05.2022

Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute –		
Setting and enforcement of food safety standards in collaboration with other Competent authorities	Director General, BSTI Mr. Arafat Hossain Sarker, Assistant Director	09.05.2022

Bangladesh Food Safety Authority		
Coordination of regulatory functions / support to evaluation / revision of food safety standards	Mr. Sahadeb Chandra Saha, Director Mr. Amitav Mondol Additional Director	30.05.2022

Food Safety data collection Activities	Respondent	Date
DLS – Headquarters, Division, District and Upazila levels –		
Registration / licensing of slaughter facilities at Division (9) District (64) and Upazila (492) levels;	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of milk traders, milk collection centres at City, Municipality, District / Upazila levels.	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of milk processing establishments:	Deputy Director, Animal Health DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022

Registration and licensing of animal feed businesses:	Deputy Director, Farms, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of rendering plants	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of animal breeding establishments	Director, Artificial Insemination, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration of commercial / semi-commercial poultry farms with/without slaughter facilities.	Deputy Director, Farms, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Registration / licensing of animal transporters	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Animal movement permit issuance	Deputy Director, Animal Health, DLS, Dhaka	19.04.2022
Border control, quarantine, Issuance of import permits for live animals and animal products	District Livestock Officer, Dhaka Animal Quarantine Officer, HSJIA	19.04.2022
Issuance of Export certificates for animals or animal products	Deputy Director, HRD, DLS, Dhaka	20.04.2022
BCS Livestock Academy		
Human resource management	Director, BCS Livestock academy, Savar, Dhaka	10.05.2022
Central Disease Investigation Laboratory (CDIL), DLS		
Provide official diagnostic tests and analyses for detection / confirmation of suspected notifiable diseases, food safety testing services	Principal Scientific Officer, CDIL, Dhaka	16.05.2022
District Livestock Office, DLS, Gazipur		
Registration / licensing of slaughter facilities at District (64) and Upazila (492) levels;	District Livestock Officer, Gazipur	17.05.2022
Registration of commercial / semi-commercial poultry farms with/without slaughter facilities.	District Livestock Officer, Gazipur	17.05.2022
Registration of meat slaughter/distribution and retail sale outlets	District Livestock Officer, Gazipur	17.05.2022
QC laboratory, DLS		
Provide facilities for testing safety and quality of feeds, medicines and for detection of residues / contaminants in animal products destined for domestic consumption / export	Dr. M. A. Hannan, Principal Scientific Officer, QC La, Savar, Dhaka	10/05.2022
Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute –		
Provide facilities and services to undertake research and development of animal vaccines and other diagnostic / analytical testing services	Chief Scientific Officer, Animal Health Division, BLRI	23.05.2022
City Corporations / Municipal authorities – Dhaka South City Corporation		
Ante- and post-mortem inspection, delegated by DLS under Animal Health Act (2005);	Md. Anisuzzaman Khan, Md. Shafiqul Islam and Md. Farid Ahmed Veterinary Inspectors	16.05.2022

Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute –		
Setting and enforcement of food safety standards in collaboration with other Competent authorities	Director General, BSTI Mr. Arafat Hossain Sarker, Assistant Director	09.05.2022
Bangladesh Food Safety Authority		
Coordination of regulatory functions / support to evaluation / revision of food safety standards	Mr. Sahadeb Chandra Saha, Director Mr. Amitav Mondol Additional Director	30.05.2022

BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH COMPETENT AUTHORITIES IN FOOD SAFETY

Based on such visits, it was understood that, a coordination mechanism in between DLS and other regulatory authorities may help addressing food safety issues. Considering under the initiative of UNIDO, bilateral meetings of DLS were arranged with BFSa, BSTI and south city corporation. Working papers were developed for the meetings.

In March 2023, UNIDO facilitated a series of high-level policy discussions with the senior leadership of DLS on the challenges, gaps and overlaps in the food safety regulatory enforcement from farm to fork for foods of animal origin. Central to these discussions was developing a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of DLS and other relevant agencies including BFSa, BSTI, City Corporations, DGDA as well as other partner organizations involved in the food safety regulatory environment.

A series of bi-lateral meetings were proposed between agencies to initially consider the recommendations and findings of the UNIDO assessments and policy papers and could in time become ad-hoc expert working groups comprised of delegates from the relevant agencies and potentially evolve towards a more formal agreement on inter-agency collaboration based on the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the relevant agencies.

The meetings held had clear objectives aimed at enhancing collaboration and streamlining responsibilities between the Directorate of Livestock Services (DLS) and other Food safety authorities. The primary goal was to receive wide-ranging support for the development of a collaborative agenda between DLS and other authorities at the senior level. Additionally, there was a commitment to mandate a Group of Experts to discuss the details of the draft agenda, particularly focusing on the implementation of safety and quality standards.

Another crucial objective was to identify areas of overlap in mandate related to key food regulatory functions for food of animal origin. The parties aimed to agree on a method to manage shared responsibilities, enhance collaboration and improve coordination in these overlapping areas. Furthermore, these bilateral meetings were seen as instrumental platforms that would serve as a foundation to develop an agenda on strengthening the food safety regulatory functions. They also aimed at fostering multi-agency partnerships, involving other

partners of the food regulatory landscape of food of animal origin. Provided below is a table that presents the parties that were engaged during these bilateral Discussions:

Date	Competent Authority engaged	Discussion	Location
5 th June-2023	Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) Meeting Chaired by Director General (DG) BSTI. And participate his team.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Codex Contact Point for Bangladesh • Council Includes a Broad representation of other competent authorities, Government organizations and stakeholders (e.g., industry associations) • Supported / empowered by BSTI Act, 2003 • Broad Mandate of Standard setting, Standard promotion, Enforcement, Certification of Products and Services • Mandate applied to processed food (of animal origin) 	Conference room of BSTI
30 th May 2023	<p>Dhaka North City Corporation</p> <p>Headed By Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and his team</p>	<p>Meeting with Dhaka North City Corporation was taken place in the office of the DG DLS, on 30 May 2023. It was chaired by DG DLS, participated by Chief Executive Authority (CEO) of DSCC and other officers.</p> <p>List of participants is attached in the Annex-3.1. The meeting took place through specific agenda (Annex-4.1). It was a very cordial meeting. Both parties agreed upon the necessity of mutual cooperation in implementing the slaughter act 2011 and rule 2021. The meeting ended with the following recommendations:</p> <p>Both parties agreed upon the necessity of joint effort to strengthen food safety situation.</p> <p>Agreed on appointing focal points representing each organization to strengthen communication.</p> <p>Agreed to form a technical committee on food safety of animal origin food and AMR on both sides.</p> <p>Agreed to sign a MoU between the two organizations considering food safety and disease control perspectives.</p>	Office of DG, DLS

Date	Competent Authority engaged	Discussion	Location
4 th June-2023	Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA), represented by Prof. Dr. Md. Abdul Alim. Member, BFSA and his team	Meeting with BFSA was taken place in the office of the DG DLS, on 30 June 2023. It was chaired by DG DLS, participated by Chief Executive Authority (CEO) of DSCC and other officers. List of participants is attached in the Annex-3.2. The meeting took place through specific agenda (Annex-4.2). It was a very cordial meeting. Both parties agreed upon the necessity of mutual cooperation in implementing the food safety interventions in animal origin food value chain. The meeting ended with some good recommendations (Meeting minutes -Annex-5)	Office of DG, DLS

In addition to the bi-laterals mentioned above, with the support of LDDP, UNIDO has conducted a good number of workshop/seminar/round tables, where all the relevant regulatory organizations along with other stakeholders, where were good interactions and understandings, which will be helpful for initiating joint efforts in the implementation of food safety related activities for food of animal origin.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the extensive series of meetings orchestrated by UNIDO with regulatory agencies from diverse ministries and food testing laboratories have yielded substantial benefits. These engagements not only served as a vital platform for open dialogue but also facilitated a dynamic exchange of ideas, contributing significantly to a more profound understanding of the intricacies embedded in implementing effective food safety measures.


What makes these interactions particularly impactful is their role in laying the foundation for potential collaborations. The discussions have not only identified key areas for intervention but have also illuminated opportunities to streamline collective efforts across various sectors. This collaborative approach, if implemented, holds the potential to substantially elevate and harmonize food safety standards on a broader scale.

Moreover, the data amassed through these engagements stands as a rich resource. It is not merely informative but instrumental in guiding the formulation of future strategies and making well-informed policy decisions. The insights garnered from these meetings provide a nuanced perspective on the existing challenges and opportunities in the realm of food safety, empowering UNIDO and its partners to implement targeted and effective initiatives for sustained improvement. It helps to avoid mis-understanding, duplication and overlapping of regulatory activities.


It also helps to optimize the limited resources. The effort the UNIDO-LDDP undertook with the support of LDDP and DLS, is expected to bring to bring a good result to build a better working relationship in between the regulatory organizations.

ANNEX-1: PRESENTATION IN THE MEETING WITH BFSA

Presentation in the meeting with BFSA on 05 January 2022



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**Exchange of views with Bangladesh Food Safety
Authority and experience sharing on BFSA Activities**

**The Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP)
UNIDO Reference No. 180125**

Dhaka, 05 January 2022




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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION




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5. Food Safety Challenges




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1. Introduction

- Livestock sector is one of the most complex food system
- It requires increased attention by regulators and policy-makers
 - to achieve the expected outcomes, and monitoring and controlling that the actors along the value chain follow adequate production, processing and marketing practices and apply safe inputs (e.g. feed and veterinary drugs)
- UNIDO promotes the application of the latest best practices in developing food safety regulatory capacities and practices by promoting compliance culture among food safety stakeholders.



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These practices should be adjusted to the development status of any food control system to ensure their expected outcomes.

Upgrading the food safety practices, food regulatory programmes, following a value chain approach, can have a catalytic role to spread best practices among food business operators.




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The Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP) initiative aims to improve productivity, market access, and resilience of smallholder farmers and agro-entrepreneurs by supporting commercialization.

It will foster a market-led transformation of livestock production, while ensuring that the supply response to growing demand is sustainable, inclusive and, safe

Improvement of food safety regulatory practices are inevitable to improve public health outcomes and simultaneously facilitate enhanced food trade, targeting export markets.



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The specific objective of the technical assistance is to support:

1. Gap analysis of existing legislation on food safety enforcement;
2. Drafting legal amendments and regulations for stronger food safety enforcement in relevant value chains;
3. Baseline data on the current level of food safety in relevant value chains;
4. The establishment of an animal origin food inspection program;
5. Support to the establishment of quality assurance schemes (GAP, HACCP, ISO, CODEX).

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2. Explanation of UNIDO approach

Relevant international standards

- Scientific evidence-based food regulatory decisions making of the food risk analysis paradigm, has become the **modus operandi** of food safety regulators around the world in the last decades.
- Advocating the scientific evidence-based **preventive/proactive** measures in national food control systems and focusing on compliance throughout the supply chain has become evident.
- These approaches have replaced the **reactive regulatory measures** and focused on **end-product testing to verify compliance with relevant standards**.

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- FAO, OIE and WHO have developed several technical guides as a result of the different international standards set by the Three Sisters (Codex Alimentarius Commission, World Animal Health Organization, and the International Plant Protection Convention).

Usually, these guides aim to provide a general understanding to countries of how institutional capacities and capabilities would need to be improved.

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Codex Guidelines and standards relevant and their relation to the activities

Title of the document	Linkage
Guidelines for National Food Control Systems (CAC/GL 82-2013)	Design, development, operation, and improvement of the national food control system
Principles for Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification (CKG 20-1995)	Existing export and import inspection function related to livestock and food of animal origin.
General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXG 1-1969)	Defining the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) system and the role prerequisite programmes.
Code of Hygienic Practice for Meat (CXG 58-2005)	Integration of basic principles related to the prerequisite programme for food business operators (GHP)
Guidance for Governments on Prioritizing Hazards in Food	Consideration of potential hazards being introduced through food to the food chain
Working Principles for Risk Analysis for Food Safety for Application by governments (CSG 62-2007)	Ensuring the clear roles and responsibilities among competent authorities on the application of risk analysis principles

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General technical guidelines developed by international organizations for the food safety capacities within the livestock sector

Publication	Organization
Food safety risk management: Evidence-informed policies and decisions, considering multiple factors	FAO
Risk-based imported food control	FAO
Strengthening national food control systems: A quick guide to assess capacity building needs	FAO
Strengthening national food control systems: Guidelines to assess capacity building needs	FAO
Food quality and safety systems: A training manual on food hygiene and the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system	FAO

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General technical guidelines developed by international organizations for the food safety capacities within the livestock sector

Publication	Organization
Risk-based food inspection manual	FAO
Food safety risk analysis: A guide for national food safety authorities	FAO
Assuring food safety and quality. Guidelines for strengthening national food control systems	FAO
Perspective and guidelines on food legislation, with a new model food law	FAO
The application of risk communication to food standards and safety Matters	FAO
Principles of Risk-based Meat Inspection and Their Application	FAO
Handbook for the Assessment of Capacities at the Human-Animal Interface (2nd edition)	WHO/OIE

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General technical guidelines developed by international organizations for the food safety capacities within the livestock sector

Publication	Organization
Guidelines for developing and implementing a National Food Safety Policy and Strategic Plan	WHO
OIE Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (OIE PVS Tool)	OIE
HACCP Principles and Practice: Teacher's handbook	WHO
Guidelines for developing and implementing a National Food Safety Policy and Strategic Plan	WHO

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With regard to the compliance with highest food safety standards, Good Animal Husbandry Practice (GAHP) and Good Hygiene Practice (GHP), have been adopted as a pre-requisite to business registration or licensing requirements.

To ensure international recognition, certification integrity and governance structure should be developed based on a specific ISO standard called *Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of product certification and guidelines for product certification schemes will serve as a general principle (ISO 17067:2013)*.

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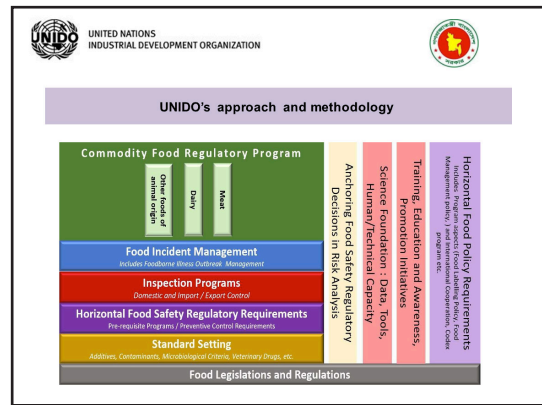
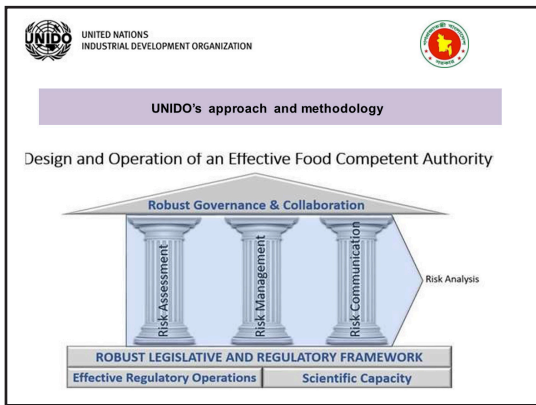
UNIDO's Food Safety Approach

UNIDO's Food Safety Approach
Safe food for Sustainable and Resilient Businesses

The diagram illustrates UNIDO's Food Safety Approach as a structure with three pillars supporting a roof. The roof is labeled 'UNIDO's Food Safety Approach: Safe food for Sustainable and Resilient Businesses'. The three pillars are:

- Pillar 2:** Enable favorable Food Safety Environment (represented by a scale icon).
- Pillar 1:** Enable Sustainable Business through effective Food Safety capacity building (represented by a factory icon).
- Pillar 3:** Foster Food Safety Advocacy and Partnerships (represented by a handshake icon).

 Below the pillars, a caption reads: 'Enhanced Food Safety culture emerges consumers and value chain actors of national, regional and global supply chains'.



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Throughout the development of the different assessments and technical and policy documents, UNIDO national and international experts will engage with:

- National stakeholders, including
 - relevant competent authorities,
 - public health organs and
 - academic research institutes
 to identify the most feasible and sustainable policy, legal and institutional framework for the livestock sector, including core enforcement functions.

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UNIDO Experts: National

Sl No.	Name	Designation
1	Dr. Md. Ainul Haque (Ex DG DLS)	National Project Coordinator
2	Dr. Md. Abu Abdullah (Ex DG NAB and Additional Secretary)	Legal expert (food regulatory)
3	Dr. Md. Mehedi Hossain (Ex Director, DLS)	National Inspection Expert
4	Dr. Md. Giasuddin (Ex CSO, BLRI and Director, National Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza (OIE Reference Laboratory))	National AMR Surveillance Expert
5	Dr. S M Rajjur Rahman (Ex- National Project Coordinator (FAO: TCP/BGD/3302))	National Livestock and Dairy Expert

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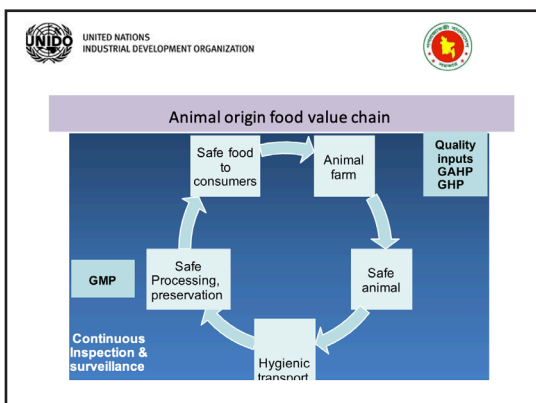
UNIDO Experts: International

Sl No.	Name	Designation
1	Dr. Samuel Godefroy (Ex Director General of the Food Directorate, Health Canada)	Senior Technical Lead in Food Regulatory Science
2	Dr. John Woodford (Extensive previous experience working with OIE. Coauthored PVS Gap Analysis report for Bangladesh with the OIE)	Senior specialist in Food Safety (Livestock Value Chain)
3	MBA Michael Barry (Previous Director Regulatory Policy; intelligence & devices, Abbott Nutrition)	Senior specialist in Food Regulatory Framework
4	Valeria Bortolaia, Senior Scientist, Reference Lab, Denmark	Microbiologist

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Laws and regulations in Livestock Sector

Sl No.	Acts/Rules	Year
1	Animal Disease Act	2005
2	Animal Quarantine Act	2005
3	Animal Disease Rule	2008
4	Fish Feed and Animal Feed Act	2010
5	Animal Slaughter and Quality Control Act	2011
6	Animal Feed Rule	2013
7	Animal welfare Act	2019



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Thanks

ANNEX-2: MEETING MINUTES WITH BFSFA

Meeting with Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSFA)

05 January 2022

A meeting on “**Exchange of views with Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSFA) and experience sharing on BFSFA activities**” was held on 05 January 2022 at BFSFA Office, Dhaka. The Chairman of BFSFA Mr. Md. Abdul Kayoum Sarker (Additional Secretary) chaired in the meeting. A pre decided Agenda (Annex -1) was followed for the meeting. The UNIDO/LDDP Bangladesh National Experts Team and BFSFA Experts were attended in this meeting (Participant list: Annex-2). UNIDO Team briefed the assignment of UNIDO and explained about objectives to meet BFSFA through power point presentation. The members of BFSFA Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Alim (Food Industry and Production), Mr. Monzur Morshed Ahmed (Public Health and Nutrition), Mr. Rezaul Karim (Food safety and consumer right) explained their role, activities and areas of interest for controlling the safety ness of food in Bangladesh. BFSFA shows their keen interest to collaborate UNIDO Team.

Brief about BFSFA:

BFSFA is an autonomous national food safety regulatory agency which works as a statutory organization and is located in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The authority was formed in February 2015 under the Food Safety Act 2013 under the Ministry of Food. The authority was modeled on the American Food and Drug Administration. BFSFA is a facilitating agency tasked with rendering necessary support to those entities/organizations directly involved in updating and upgrading the food safety standards or guidelines; in determining permissible limits at its highest safe level for use of contaminants and residue, additives or preservatives; in determining permissible limits of radiation in food; in formulating and implementing accreditation policies; in formulating procedural guidelines for accrediting food testing laboratories and requesting the government to increase the capacity of safe food controlling agencies and organizations. It is governed by a five-member decision making body. The agency has its own mobile court that can fine and sentence people for food adulteration.

Responsibility of BFSFA:

Coordination: BFSFA will coordinate the activities of the various agencies and organizations engaged in controlling food safety as well as those involved in activities relating to food production, import, processing, stockpiling, supplying, marketing and sales, to ensure peoples’ right of access to safe food through appropriate application of modern scientific processes and state of the art technology. As a coordinator BFSFA is very much reliant on the proactive role of the safe food controlling agencies and organizations.

Team work: BFSFA is a big team consisting of nine (9) Ministries & Divisions and nine (9) other subordinate departments & organizations. The Team will become bigger when nine (9) City Corporations will join it in the immediate future and will ultimately get its fullest size when 67 Municipal Corporations and 391 Municipalities gradually join the Team.

The role of BFSA:

- Protecting consumers' interests in relation to food first and foremost
- Using the best scientific advice available to make informed decisions
- Acting in an independent, open and transparent manner
- Ensuring fair and consistent enforcement of safe food regulations
- Consulting and working in partnership with all relevant stakeholders
- Being accountable and taking responsibility for our actions
- Being an effective and progressive regulator

Issues we discussed:

- Discuss about UNIDO's Food Safety Approach and methodology by power point presentation. Through this presentation Experts Team brief about the Package 74 (food safety) and package 75 (antimicrobial resistance). Under those package major activities i.e. Gap analysis of veterinary services, food safety, and value chain related to food safety, Inspection, AMR & AMU and Legislation were discussed.
- Discuss about dairy and poultry related food safety challenges which in happen recent past and published in the daily Newspapers.
- Discuss about major challenge related to Food safety of animal origin food; Those were
 - Food Safety issues in Act and Regulations
 - Traceability, Inspection and certification
 - Improper use of veterinary medicinal products including antimicrobials
 - Environmental pollution
 - Use of chemicals in agriculture
 - Industrial waste in environment
 - Inter-Agency collaboration for food safety compliance under the umbrella of BFSA
- BFSA gave hard copies of Food safety act October 10, 2013 to UNIDO experts.
- As of BFSA's suggestion; UNIDO may issue a letter to BFSA for assigning BFSA experts in different areas to collaborate with UNIDO as focal points. After assigning BFSA persons, UNIDO/BFSFA can one to one communicate/talk. In this way relationship among UNIDO, LDDP, DLS and BFSFA would be increased. UNIDO team can communicate to BFSFA experts and meet as and when needed to find out the Gap /related information for assigned work.
- BFSFA Chairman expressed high satisfaction to meet with UNIDO Team. He expected more

active role of livestock sector for improving food safety situation in Bangladesh. He appreciated proactive role of UNIDO to meet with BFSA at the initial stage of the program, which he expected would bring a fruitful output in developing regulatory instruments in livestock sector.

ANNEX-3.1: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE UNIDO ASSISTED BI-LATERAL MEETING BETWEEN DLS AND DHAKA NORTH CITY CORPORATION

List of participants in the UNIDO assisted bi-lateral meeting in between Department of Livestock Services and Dhaka North City Corporation in the office of DG, DLS, Dhaka, on 30 May 2023

Sl No.	Name	Designation	Organization
1	Dr. Monjur Mohammad Shahjda	Director General	DLS
2		Chief Executive Officer	DNCC
3	Brig Gen Md. Zobaidur Rahamn	Chief Health Officer	DNCC
4	Dr. Md. Reajul Huq	Director Administration	DLS
5	Dr. Md. Shahinur Alam	Director Extension	DLS
6	Dr. Md. Abu Sufian	Director Budget	DLS
7	Dr. ABM Khaleduzzaman	Director Production	DLS
8	Dr. Md. Mahbubul Alam Bhuyan	DD (Ad)	DLS
9	Amitav Mondal	Director	BFSA
10	Shaurin Islam	Scientific Officer	BFSA
11	Dr. ABM Mustanur Rahman	DPD, LDDP	DLS
12	Dr. Md. Shakiful Azam	DPD, LDDP	DLS
13	Dr. Sharmin Samad	DD (Risk Management)	DLS
14	Dr. Md. Luthforv Rahman	PHO	DNCC
15	Dr. Md. Ainul Haque	NPC	UNIDO
16	Dr. John Woodford	International Expert	UNIDO
17	Dr. James Hanks	International Expert	UNIDO
18	Dr. Md. Mehedi Hossain	National Expert	UNIDO

ANNEX-3.2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE UNIDO ASSISTED BI-LATERAL MEETING BETWEEN DLS AND BSFA

List of participants in the UNIDO assisted bi-lateral meeting in between Department of Livestock Services and Bangladesh Food Safety Authority in the office of DG, DLS, Dhaka, on 04 June 2023

Sl No.	Name	Designation	Organization
19	Dr. Md. Reajul Huq	Director Administration	DLS
20	Professor Dr. Md.Abdul Alim	Member	BFSA
21	Dr. ABM Khaleduzzaman	Director Production	DLS
22	Dr. Md. Shahinur Alam	Director Extension	DLS
23	Amitav Mondal	Director	BFSA
24	Shaurin Islam	Scientific Officer	BFSA
25	Sumen Majumder	Scientific Officer	BFSA
26	Dr. Md. Ainul Haque	NPC	UNIDO
27	Dr. John Woodford	International Expert	UNIDO
28	Dr. Md. Mehedi Hossain	National Expert	UNIDO

ANNEX-3.3: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE UNIDO ASSISTED BI-LATERAL MEETING IN BETWEEN DLS AND BSTI

List of participants in the UNIDO assisted bi-lateral meeting in between Department of Livestock Services and Bangladesh Standard Testing Institute(BSTI), in the office of DG BSTI, Dhaka, on 04 June 2023

Sl No.	Name	Designation	Organization
1	Dr. Md. Reajul Huq	Director Administration	DLS
2	Dr. Md. Shahinur Alam	Director Extension	DLS
3	Dr. ABM Khaleduzzaman	Director Production	DLS
4	Dr. ABM Khaleduzzaman	Director Production	DLS
5	Nilufa Haque	Director Standard	BSTI
6	Md. Nurul Islam	Director Chemical	BSTI
7	Md Riajul Haque	Scientific Officer	BSTI

8	Sumen Majumder	Director Instrument	BSTI
9	Md. Enamul Haque	DD Afood and Ag.	BSTI
10	Mohammad Arafat Hossain Sarker	Asstt. Director CM	BSTI
11	Jlsan Ahmed Talukder	Asstt. Director CM	BSTI
12	Dr. Md. Ainul Haque	NPC	UNIDO
13	Dr. John Woodford	International Expert	UNIDO
14	Dr. Md. Mehedi Hossain	National Expert	UNIDO

ANNEX-4: OVERVIEW AND AGENDA

Overview and Agenda: Bilateral dialogue of DLS with DSCC

Bilateral Policy Dialogues on
Strengthening Inter-agency collaboration in the regulation
of foods of animal origin including foodborne AMR surveillance in Bangladesh

Draft Meeting Agenda for Bi-lateral Meeting between DLS and North City Corporation
30th May 2023

Organized by DLS, Supported by UNIDO, LDDP
United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Context

- The Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP) of DLS is a World Bank funded initiative, to promote productivity, growth, enhance market access, and improve risk management among smallholder farmers and agro entrepreneurs in Bangladesh.
- The Department of Livestock Services (DLS) is the competent authority, mandated by legislation to enforce the safe production and placing on the market of foods of animal origin, and in conjunction with other legislative bodies and agencies.
- The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) the specialized United Nations agency that assists countries in economic and industrial development, is contributing to two components of the LDDP: namely, improved climate smart production practices by addressing the aspect of health in animal production, and food safety and public health by addressing food safety and quality assurance.
- In 2022, UNIDO undertook a GAP analysis of the legal and policy framework within the livestock sector in Bangladesh with a primary focus on food safety regulatory functions and of the areas of intervention of the relevant competent authorities.
- It identified gaps and areas of concern relating to the implementation and coordination of food safety regulatory functions both within and between competent authorities due to relevant legislation not providing sufficient clarity on the scope of mandate of different regulatory authorities.

A Need for Stronger Collaboration

- To ensure the safety of food, and specifically foods of animal origin, in addition to the prevention and control of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and contamination there is a need for coordination in the supervision, follow up, monitoring and intervention of food safety controls from farm to fork.
- Responsibility for the regulation of these functions extends across a number of regulatory agencies in Bangladesh.
- At different stages of the food system, it is recommended to have a lead agency collaborating with other agencies on different food regulatory functions based on the principles of risk analysis.
- There are cross-cutting areas where further discussion is necessary to ensure comprehensive enforcement along the value chain, and to clarify and agree roles and responsibilities of all relevant competent authorities.

A Basis for Bi-lateral Dialogue

- In March 2023, UNIDO facilitated a series of high level policy discussions with the senior leadership of DLS on the challenges, gaps and overlaps in the food safety regulatory enforcement from farm to fork for foods of animal origin
- Central to these discussions was developing a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of DLS and other relevant agencies including BSA, BSTI, City Corporations, DGOA as well as other partner organizations involved in the food safety regulatory environment.
- A series of bi-lateral meetings were proposed between agencies to initially consider the recommendations and findings of the UNIDO assessments and policy papers and could in time become ad hoc expert working groups comprised of delegates from the relevant agencies and potentially evolve towards a more formal agreement on inter-agency collaboration based on the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the relevant agencies.

Proposed Approach

- Inter-agency communication and standard-setting function**
 - To consider how Bangladesh food standards and technical requirements can better be aligned with international standards and guidance through better coordination.
 - To consider current capacities and practices based on UNIDO assessments and provide perspectives on the roles and responsibilities within the standard-setting landscape.
- Veterinary enforcement function**
 - To consider the UNIDO analysis of the legislation governing food safety along each of the major livestock value chains with specific focus on the enforcement functions of DLS and City Corporations.
 - To consider the draft functional oriented organogram within DLS and revisit the UNIDO and WOHAT findings on the veterinary performance assessment, and how they would need to be linked to a more robust policy framework, the operation of DLS and collaboration with City Corporations.
- Prudent AMU in Livestock and AMR Surveillance in food of animal origin**
 - To clarify roles and responsibilities and develop a plan for active collaboration for prudent AMU in livestock and AMR surveillance in foods of animal origin.
 - To consider the recommendations for the development of regulations, organization, and infrastructure for prudent AMU in livestock and foodborne AMR surveillance in Bangladesh, discuss and agree some concrete action points on sampling strategies, data analysis and communication based on the prioritization of risks in terms of AMR and in the context of food safety from farm to fork.

Meeting Objectives

- Receive wide ranging support for the development of a collaborative agenda between DLS and City Corporations at the senior level and a commitment to mandate a Group of Experts to discuss details of the draft agenda (i.e. act on implementation of safety and quality standards)
- Identify areas of overlap in mandate related to key food regulatory functions for food of animal origin and agree on the way to manage shared responsibilities, collaboration and coordination
- Bilateral meetings would serve as a foundation to develop an agenda on strengthening the food safety regulatory functions and multi-agency partnerships (i.e., involving other partners of the food regulatory landscape of food of animal origin).

This bi-lateral meeting and minutes will apply Chatham House Rules in which observations, comments and proposals are not attributable to individuals or their respective organizations. Agreed outcomes from this meeting can be shared only with the consensus of the attendees.

Draft Meeting Agenda

1. **Introductions**
2. **Approval of Bi-lateral Meeting Agenda**
3. **Inter-agency communication related to standard-setting function and enforcement**
 - To discuss a more formal process of collaboration between DLS and City Corporations with the possibility to develop a procedural Manual for DLS and City Corporations in the regulation of animal farming, marketing and slaughter regulatory measures pertaining to food of animal origin.
 - To review the processes applied by each party in granting authorizations and follow-up compliance verification measures, with the intent to simplify requirements and duplication.
 - It also aims to sharing idea about develop and improve standard infrastructure for slaughtering on animals and birds, live animal and bird markets, retail meat marketing and animal origin waste management with a view to proper enforcement of acts and regulations.
4. **Prudent AMU in Livestock and AMR Surveillance in foods of animal origin.**
 - To identify areas for collaboration between DLS and City Corporations to support AMR surveillance in foods of animal origin.
 - To revisit the recommendations for the foodborne AMR surveillance in animal origin food, and discuss some concrete action points on waste management and sample collection and communication based on the prioritization of risks in terms of AMR.
5. **Follow up actions for enhanced collaboration between DLS and City Corporations**

Overview and Agenda: Bilateral dialogue of DLS with BFSa

Bilateral Policy Dialogues on
Strengthening Inter-agency collaboration in the regulation of foods of animal origin including foodborne AMR surveillance in Bangladesh

Draft Meeting Agenda for Bi-lateral Meeting between DLS and BFSa
 6th (7th) June 2023

Organized by DLS, Supported by UNIDO, LDDP
 United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Context

1. The Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP) of DLS is a World Bank funded initiative, to promote productivity, growth, enhance market access, and improve risk management among smallholder farmers and agro entrepreneurs in Bangladesh.
2. The Department of Livestock Services (DLS) is the competent authority, mandated by legislation to enforce the safe production and placing on the market of foods of animal origin, and in conjunction with other legislative bodies and agencies.
3. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) the specialized United Nations agency that assists countries in economic and industrial development, is contributing to two components of the LDDP: namely, improved climate smart production practices by addressing the aspect of health in animal production, and food safety and public health by addressing food safety and quality assurance.
4. In 2022, UNIDO undertook a GAP analysis of the legal and policy framework within the livestock sector in Bangladesh with a primary focus on food safety regulatory functions and of the areas of intervention of the relevant competent authorities.
5. It identified gaps and areas of concern relating to the implementation and coordination of food safety regulatory functions both within and between competent authorities due to relevant legislation not providing sufficient clarity on the scope of mandate of different regulatory authorities.

A Need for Stronger Collaboration

1. To ensure the safety of food, and specifically foods of animal origin, in addition to the prevention and control of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and contamination there is a need for coordination in the supervision, follow up, monitoring and intervention of food safety controls from farm to fork.
2. Responsibility for the regulation of these functions extends across a number of regulatory agencies in Bangladesh.
3. At different stages of the food system, it is recommended to have a lead agency collaborating with other agencies on different food regulatory functions based on the principles of risk analysis.
4. There are cross-cutting areas where further discussion is necessary to ensure comprehensive enforcement along the value chain, and to clarify and agree roles and responsibilities of all relevant competent authorities.

A Basis for Bi-lateral Dialogue

1. In March 2023, UNIDO facilitated a series of high level policy discussions with the senior leadership of DLS on the challenges, gaps and overlaps in the food safety regulatory enforcement from farm to fork for foods of animal origin
2. Central to these discussions was developing a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of DLS and other relevant agencies including BFSa, BSTI, City Corporations, DGGA as well as other partner organizations involved in the food safety regulatory environment.
3. A series of bi-lateral meetings were proposed between agencies to initially consider the recommendations and findings of the UNIDO assessments and policy papers and could in time become ad-hoc expert working groups comprised of delegates from the relevant agencies and potentially evolve towards a more formal agreement on inter-agency collaboration based on the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the relevant agencies.

Proposed Approach

1. **Inter-agency communication and standard-setting function**
 - To develop more formal process of collaboration between DLS and BFSa to engage in the international dialogue on safety and quality standards including Codex and WGAH in relation to primary production and processing of foods of animal origin.
 - To consider how Bangladesh food standards and technical requirements can better be aligned with international standards and guidance through better coordination.
 - To consider current capacities and practices based on UNIDO assessments and provide perspectives on the roles and responsibilities within the standard-setting landscape.
2. **Veterinary enforcement function**
 - To consider the UNIDO analysis of the legislation governing food safety along each of the major livestock value chains with specific focus on the enforcement functions of DLS and BFSa.
 - To consider the draft functional oriented organogram within DLS and revisit the UNIDO and WGAH findings on the veterinary performance assessment, and how they would need to be linked to a more robust policy framework, the operation of DLS and collaboration with BFSa.
3. **Prudent AMU in Livestock and AMR Surveillance in food of animal origin**
 - To clarify roles and responsibilities and develop a plan for active collaboration for prudent AMU in livestock and AMR surveillance in foods of animal origin.
 - To consider the recommendations for the development of regulations, organization, and infrastructure for prudent AMU in livestock and foodborne AMR surveillance in Bangladesh, discuss and agree some concrete action points on sampling strategies, data analysis and communication based on the prioritization of risks in terms of AMR and in the context of food safety from farm to fork.

Meeting Objectives

1. Receive wide ranging support for the development of a collaborative agenda between DLS and BFSa at the senior level and a commitment to mandate a Group of Experts to discuss details of the draft agenda (i.e. act on implementation of safety and quality standards)
2. Identify areas of overlap in mandate related to key food regulatory functions for food of animal origin and agree on the way to manage shared responsibilities, collaboration and coordination
3. Bilateral meetings would serve as a foundation to develop an agenda on strengthening the food safety regulatory functions and multi-agency partnerships (i.e., involving other partners of the food regulatory landscape of food of animal origin).

This bi-lateral meeting and minutes will apply Chatham House Rules in which observations, comments and proposals are not attributable to individuals or their respective organizations. Agreed outcomes from this meeting can be shared only with the consensus of the attendees.



Draft Meeting Agenda

1. **Introductions**
2. **Approval of Bi-lateral Meeting Agenda**
3. **Inter-agency communication and standard-setting function**
 - Food safety standards and rules associated with food of animal origin
 - Safety standards regarding biological, chemical and physical contaminants
 - Availability of a risk assessment capacity and scientific advice to underpin food safety regulatory decisions related to food of animal origin
4. **Veterinary enforcement functions**
 - The objective of the dialogue on Veterinary Enforcement is to consider the legislative processes governing food safety of animal products along each of the major livestock value-chains with specific focus on the food safety enforcement functions of DLS and BFSa.
5. **Prudent AMU in Livestock and AMR Surveillance in foods of animal origin.**
 - The objective of this dialogue is to identify areas for collaboration between DLS and BFSa to support prudent AMU in livestock and AMR surveillance in foods of animal origin.
 - The dialogue will revisit the recommendations for the development of regulations, organization of enforcement, and infrastructure for prudent AMU in livestock and foodborne AMR surveillance in Bangladesh, and discuss some concrete action points on sampling strategies, data analysis and communication based on the prioritization of risks in terms of AMR.
6. **Follow up actions for enhanced collaboration between DLS and BFSa**

Overview and Agenda: Bilateral dialogue of DLS with BSTi



Bilateral Policy Dialogues on
Strengthening Inter-agency Collaboration in the regulation of foods of animal origin including foodborne AMR surveillance in Bangladesh


Draft Meeting Agenda for Bi-lateral Meeting between DLS and BSTi
4th / 6th June 2023

Organized by DLS, Supported by UNIDO, LDDP
United Nations Industrial Development Organization




Context

1. The Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP) of DLS is a World Bank funded initiative, to promote productivity, growth, enhance market access, and improve risk management among smallholder farmers and agro entrepreneurs in Bangladesh.
2. The Department of Livestock Services (DLS) is the competent authority, mandated by legislation to enforce the safe production and placing on the market of foods of animal origin, and in conjunction with other legislative bodies and agencies.
3. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) the specialized United Nations agency that assists countries in economic and industrial development, is contributing to two components of the LDDP: namely improved climate smart production practices by addressing the aspect of health in animal production, and food safety and public health by addressing food safety and quality assurance.
4. In 2022, UNIDO undertook a GAP analysis of the legal and policy framework within the livestock sector in Bangladesh with a primary focus on food safety regulatory functions and of the areas of intervention of the relevant competent authorities.
5. It identified gaps and areas of concern relating to the implementation and coordination of food safety regulatory functions both within and between competent authorities due to relevant legislation not providing sufficient clarity on the scope of mandate of different regulatory authorities.




A Need for Stronger Collaboration

1. To ensure the safety of food, and specifically foods of animal origin, in addition to the prevention and control of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and contamination there is a need for coordination in the supervision, follow up, monitoring and intervention of food safety controls from farm to fork.
2. Responsibility for the regulation of these functions extends across a number of regulatory agencies in Bangladesh.
3. At different stages of the food system, it is recommended to have a lead agency collaborating with other agencies on different food regulatory functions based on the principles of risk analysis.
4. There are cross-cutting areas where further discussion is necessary to ensure comprehensive enforcement along the value chain, and to clarify and agree roles and responsibilities of all relevant competent authorities.




A Basis for Bi-lateral Dialogue

1. In March 2023, UNIDO facilitated a series of high level policy discussions with the senior leadership of DLS on the challenges, gaps and overlaps in the food safety regulatory enforcement from farm to fork for foods of animal origin.
2. Central to these discussions was developing a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of DLS and other relevant agencies including BFSa, BSTi, City Corporations, DGCA as well as other partner organizations involved in the food safety regulatory environment.
3. A series of bi-lateral meetings were proposed between agencies to initially consider the recommendations and findings of the UNIDO assessments and policy papers and could in time become ad-hoc expert working groups comprised of delegates from the relevant agencies and potentially evolve towards a more formal agreement on inter-agency collaboration based on the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the relevant agencies.



Proposed Approach

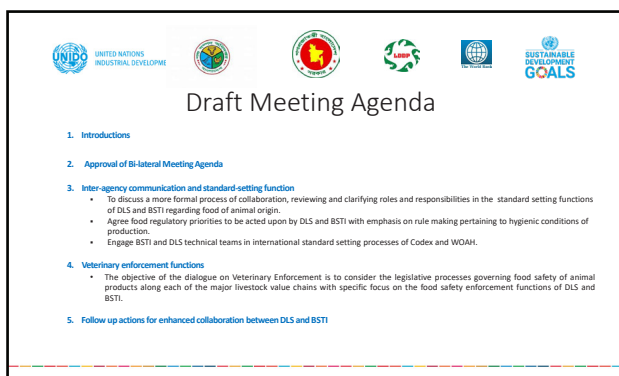
1. **Inter-agency communication and standard-setting function**
 - To develop a more formal process of collaboration between DLS and BSTi to engage in the international standard-setting process, including Codex and the World Organization of Animal Health (WOAH).
 - To consider how Bangladesh food standards and technical requirements can better be aligned with international standards and guidance through better coordination.
 - To consider current capacities and practices based on UNIDO assessments and provide perspectives on the roles and responsibilities within the standard-setting landscape.
2. **Veterinary enforcement function**
 - To consider the UNIDO analysis of the legislation governing food safety along each of the major livestock value chains with specific focus on the enforcement functions of DLS and BSTi.
 - To consider the draft functional oriented organogram within DLS and BSTi and WHO findings on the veterinary performance assessment, and how they would need to be linked to a more robust policy framework, the operation of DLS and collaboration with BSTi.
3. **Prudent AMU in Livestock and AMR Surveillance in food of animal origin**
 - To clarify roles and responsibilities and develop a plan for active collaboration for prudent AMU in livestock and AMR surveillance in foods of animal origin.
 - To consider the recommendations for the development of regulations, organization, and infrastructure for prudent AMU in livestock and foodborne AMR surveillance in Bangladesh, discuss and agree some concrete action points on sampling strategies, data analysis and communication based on the prioritization of risks in terms of AMR and in the context of food safety from farm to fork.



Meeting Objectives

1. Receive wide ranging support for the development of a collaborative agenda between DLS and BSTi at the senior level and a commitment to mandate a Group of Experts to discuss details of the draft agenda (i.e. act on implementation of safety and quality standards)
2. Identify areas of overlap in mandate related to key food regulatory functions for food of animal origin and agree on the way to manage shared responsibilities, collaboration and coordination
3. Bilateral meetings would serve as a foundation to develop an agenda on strengthening the food safety regulatory functions and multi-agency partnerships (i.e., involving other partners of the food regulatory landscape of food of animal origin).

This bi-lateral meeting and minutes will apply Chatham House Rules in which observations, comments and proposals are not attributable to individuals or their respective organizations. Agreed outcomes from this meeting can be shared only with the consensus of the attendees.



ANNEX-5: MINUTES OF THE BI-LATERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Bi-lateral meeting in between Department of Livestock Services and Bangladesh Food Safety Authority in the office of DG, DLS, Dhaka

on 04 June 2023

A bi-lateral meeting was held in between Department of Livestock Services and Bangladesh Food Safety Authority in the office of DG, DLS, Dhaka on 04 June 2023. The meeting was chaired by Director Administration, DLS Dr. Md. Reajul Huq. It was attended by Member BFSA Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Alim, Amitav Mondal, Director BFSA, Directors of DLS and other officers of DLS and BFSA and representatives of UNIDO. A list of the participants is attached in Annex-01.

The chair welcomed the participants, especially the participants from BFSA. Following self-introduction of participants, the chair requested Dr. Abu Sufian, Director Budget to present a briefing of the background information and the issues expected to be discussed in the meeting. In his presentation, Dr. Sufian gave a short description of nation building role of DLS. He remembered the already existing collaborative efforts of DLS and BFSA in different issues. He mentioned the necessity of a systematic approach of collaboration in upcoming days. He also mentioned that there is already a MoU between DLS and BFSA, which needs review and updating considering the current perspective. List of the participants is described in Annex- 1.

Following his presentation, Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Alim, Member BFSA made a presentation on BFSA activities. He mentioned different activities of BFSA, especially livestock related activities. In his discussion, some issues of overlapping of responsibilities came out, especially the areas of licensing of different actors along the food value chains.

Dr. John Woodford, International expert on Food Safety made a presentation on behalf of UNIDO. In his presentation, he raised the issues of standard setting, risk assessment, veterinary enforcement etc. He highlighted the necessity of a structured approach towards cooperation between the various food safety regulators, especially DLS and BFSA. He proposed assigning focal points and other experts to represent DLS and BFSA respectively, and to continue developing the process of cooperation, engaging with other Competent Authorities with shared, responsibilities for food safety, to reach agreement on respective roles and responsibilities of each CA and to collaborate in developing standards to be defined in Rules and Regulations.

There then followed a threadbare discussion about the issues raised above. Everyone agreed the necessity of establishing a formal cooperation between DLS and BFSA. Following the discussion, both parties agreed on the following issues:

1. Both parties agreed upon the necessity of joint effort to strengthen food safety situation.
2. Agreed on appointing focal points representing each organization to strengthen communication.
3. Agreed to form a technical committee on food safety of animal origin food and AMR on both sides.
4. Agreed to revise the MoU signed earlier between the two organizations considering current new perspectives.

Having no other issues to discuss, the chair closed the meeting thanking all participants.



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