**RICE PROFILE IN BANGLADESH**

- **13.6%** of Bangladesh’s GDP comes from agriculture
- **75%** of cropped area is rice
- **53.8 million** tons (4th-highest in the world) is the current paddy production
- **3.5 times** increase in production in last 50 years
- **85%** of cultivated area is under high-yielding rice varieties
- **15-30%** reduction in water consumption using IRRI’s water-efficient technologies
- **4.6 t/ha** yield in 2019 compared to **1.7 t/ha** rice yield since 1971

**IRRI’S CONTRIBUTION**

- **80%** of released rice varieties in Bangladesh have IRRI genetic materials
- **110,000+** scholars and short-term trainees trained by IRRI in 55 years
- **7,000+** Bangladeshi rice accessions conserved in IRRI Genebank
- **15-30%** reduction in water consumption using IRRI’s water-efficient technologies
- **4.6 t/ha** yield in 2019 compared to **1.7 t/ha** rice yield since 1971

**KEY RESEARCH AREAS**

- Breeding improved (short duration, high-yielding, optimal grain quality) and hybrid rice varieties
- Healthier rice varieties enriched with Vitamin-A, Iron, Zinc
- Climate change adaptation, mitigation and resilience with stress-tolerant varieties and climate smart agriculture
- Sustainable intensification and diversification of rice-based cropping systems for better nutritional outcomes
- Resource use efficiency and adoption of environmentally sustainable technologies
- Socioeconomic solutions in regard to rice value chain, market, gender, youth, and policy
- Capacity Building on rice-based agri-food systems
- Promoting mechanisation and ICT in agriculture
TIMELINE

1965  IRRI starts work in Bangladesh; 303 rice varieties tested
1967  First widely-distributed, semi-dwarf HYV rice IR8 introduced
1975-2019  National paddy production increased by 3.5 times
2017  Severe floods damaged 10% of rice yield and price rose by 25%
2017-18  Over 54m tons of paddy produced (4th-largest rice producer in world)
2018  IRRI and Government of Bangladesh co-develop the 5-year Work Plan

5-YEAR WORK PLAN

IRRI’s 5-year work plan (developed in 2018 with government and partners) had the following priorities:

- Superior, climate-smart, hybrid and healthier rice varieties
- Improving productivity and resilience of coastal agriculture
- Sustainable intensification and diversification of rice based production systems
- Mechanisation and post-harvest technologies
- ICT in agriculture
- Rice value chain and policies
- Capacity development

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IRRI aims to improve livelihoods and nutrition, abolishing poverty, hunger, and malnutrition among those who depend on rice-based agri-food systems. In doing so, IRRI’s work protects the health of rice farmers and consumers, and the environmental sustainability of rice farming in a world challenged by climate change. IRRI’s work promotes the empowerment of women and supports opportunities for youth in an equitable agri-food system.