

Entry No. IRRC-0031

Category	: International Rice Research Conference
Select Theme	: Climate change and environmental sustainability
Endorsement email	:
Keyword 1	: Adaptation to climate change
Keyword 2	: Climate smart agriculture
Keyword 3	: Mitigation of climate change
Title of Entry	: Awareness and dissemination of Stress Tolerant Rice for Africa & South Asia (STRASA) varieties in rural Bangladesh
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Select only one type of presentation	: 15 minute oral presentation
Abstract	: Serendipity, the implementation of Stress Tolerant Rice for Africa and South Asia (STRASA) project brings a real change in the agricultural production system in rural Bangladesh. Due to climate change issues the country is facing serious limitations in crop cultivation. The problems of submergence, salinity, drought and cold are at a rise throughout the country. The products developed by STRASA project are contributing significantly in abiotic stress prone regions. BRRI dhan51, 52 and BINA dhan 11 & 12 are working as gifts for the farmers those are severely affected by submergence, flush flood and water logging. Several notable varieties are developed for the salt affected areas. From among them BRRI dhan67 and BINA dhan 10 are contributing significantly in the salinity affected areas of southern Bangladesh. Drought is a severe problem in northern Bangladesh. To address this problem BRRI dhan71, 66, 75 and BINA dhan 17 are playing important roles. We are now working closely with Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Bangladesh, Directorate of Agriculture (DAE), BADC, BRRI, BINA, Universities, elites of the society, Member of Parliament, media to create awareness to the framers and dissemination program to popularize the Stress Tolerant Rice varieties (STRVs). Furthermore, the STRVs are capable to produce higher yield in favorable and non-stress prone areas as well thus they will certainly contribute in varietal replacement strategies. Creation of awareness and dissemination of STRVs through training, seed distribution, crop cut experiments, head to head trails, crop cafeteria, farmer’s field days have contributed remarkably in the agricultural production system in rural Bangladesh. Thus STRVs are contributing towards food security and Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) in Bangladesh. Gender mainstreaming is an important issue e.g., in all of our awareness meetings, training programs, seed distribution events and farmer’s field days participation of female farmers are increasing significantly. We have real commitment to address the gender issues in this project so that women are involved in decision making and thereby grow as a leader in the community. They need to be empowered to play decision making roles in the community development and social engagements through this project activity.

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