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PRESS RELEASE

U.S. GOVERNMENT-FUNDED FOOD SECURITY WORKSHOP BEGINS TOMORROW

DHAKA, FEBRUARY 17 -- The U.S. Government is hosting a two-day Food Security Workshop for senior officials from the Bangladesh Government, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), development partners and civil society on February 18-19. Participants will discuss ongoing research in the field and food security under the National Food Policy Capacity Strengthening Program (NFPCSP) and will propose recommendations to the government to better implement the National Food Policy. The Bangladesh Government and FAO jointly administer the NFPCSP, with funding from the United States Government, through USAID, and the European Commission.

There has been a renewed focus in Bangladesh on ensuring food security for all. The U.S. Government-supported NFPCSP enhances the Bangladesh Government's capacity to oversee a comprehensive, equitable, gender-sensitive, and poverty-targeted National Food Policy and Policy Action Plan. The program promotes dialogue within civil society on issues facing those most vulnerable to food insecurity. NFPCSP also supports stronger links between policy analysts and researchers in academia and civil society.

The United States Government has provided more than \$5 billion in development assistance to Bangladesh since 1971, more than one half of which was in the form of food aid. The U.S. Government's assistance to Bangladesh includes support for more transparent and accountable governance, assistance for a better educated, healthier and more productive population, funding to increase economic opportunities through equitable economic growth, food assistance, and support for disaster mitigation.

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Note: A Bangla translation of this press release is also available at the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: DhakaPA@state.gov; Website: [http:// dhaka.usembassy.gov](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov)