

## Danish support to climate change adaptation

ENVIRONMENTAL sustainability has for many years been a major concern for Denmark. Danish Development assistance and all development programmes are analysed for potential environmental impacts, including climate change proofing. In Bangladesh, Denmark is providing support to a number of climate change adaptation initiatives in cooperation with government agencies, NGOs and other international organisations.

Climate change is a global problem that affects people locally, having a direct influence on achieving the Millennium Development Goals fighting poverty and meeting development objectives. Denmark's focus is on reducing the emissions and identifying the coping mechanism for surviving climate change. This is especially important in developing countries, like Bangladesh, as these are the ones most affected by climate change.

In 2005 it was decided that all Danish Funded programmes should be assessed to ensure that risks from climate change are addressed in the design and the implementation of the programmes and projects. Climate screening has been carried out in 17 countries including Bangladesh, where a detailed Climate Management plan has been chalked out for the Agriculture and Water sector. These plans reviewed the existing policies, strategies of the Government of Bangladesh and also the ongoing country programme and provided sector specific recommendations on how to integrate climate change issues in the two sector programmes.

Denmark also supports the formulation and revision process of the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan by Government of Bangladesh as well as strengthening the capacity of Bangladesh for participating in e.g. last year's COP15 and other international events for climate negotiations.

Within assistance to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction the Danish Embassy has

initiated two projects in 2008 along with international and national NGOs and other technical organizations.

One being the "Support to the National Flood Forecasting and Warning Services" project contributes to establishing a sustainable national capacity for the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre, to forecast and disseminate warnings and information of salinity intrusion in the Coastal Belt of Bangladesh. Further, the project seeks to improve the understanding of the potential impact of climate change on the hydrology in the Ganges-Meghna-Brahmaputra Basin and its consequences on floods and draughts in Bangladesh.

The second being, "Assistance to local communities on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in Bangladesh" project selected climate change adaptation options in three districts prone to flood, drought, salinity and sea level rise.

An important element in both projects is to generate, document and disseminate critical knowledge on community's adaptation with more severe flooding and salinity intrusion/cyclone, brought about by climate change in Bangladesh. Both these projects will continue into 2010.

The Embassy of Denmark has also launched some new projects in 2009 with renowned development organizations. E.g. one project with IUCN which aims to enhance capacity of Bangladesh (Government Officials, Member of Parliament, Civil Society, Journalists and other relevant groups) for participation in the Road to Copenhagen negotiations and the enhancement of capacity in Post-Copenhagen regime. Also a project with Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies focuses on building mass awareness on climate change and related disasters, through programmes to be telecasted on National Television. And finally a project to study the CC-DRR situation in Northeast region of Bangladesh has been started.

## Danish support promotes integrated farming systems through Farmers Field Schools

AGRICULTURE is one of the key sectors for the Bangladeshi economy. Bangladesh agriculture is predominantly marginal and small farm agriculture with crops including homestead vegetable, fisheries and livestock as sub-systems of the farming system.

Denmark has supported the agriculture and rural development sector in Bangladesh since the mid 1970s. At present the Agricultural Sector Programme Support Phase II (ASPS II) is under implementation. Two of the three components in the programme involve field based agricultural extension. The Agricultural Extension Component is implemented by the Department of Agricultural Extension, promoting Integrated Crop Management, and the Regional Fisheries and Livestock Development Component is jointly implemented by the Department of Livestock Services and the Department of Fisheries, focusing on livestock and fisheries sub-sectors. The extension approach followed by both initiatives is the so-called Farmers Field School (FFS) approach.

The FFS is a participatory group learning approach that follows the experiential learning cycle for adult education. The participants of FFS are men and women and consists of a number of learning sessions held 15 days apart in which the farmers come to a central place, usually at a particular crop field or pond



A session in a Farmers Field School in Gazipur.

side. In the case of the FFS, farmers are not given any lectures on any agricultural issues. Instead they learn by making careful observations of what is happening in their own fields. Based on these observations, they formulate and test their own ideas about how to manage their production.

The Farmers Field School assumes that farmers already have a wealth of experience and knowledge, and the approach encourages farmers to continue learning through a process of experimentation and careful observation. FFS provides an environment in which farmers acquire the knowledge and skills to improve expected levels of production for their crop cultivation, livestock and poultry rearing and fish production through application of sound production management decisions.

FFS empowers farmers to become "experts" on their own farms and to be more confident in solving their own problems. FFS sharpens farmers' abilities to make critical and informed decisions that make their farming activities more profitable and sustainable, improve farmers' problem solving abilities and shows farmers the benefits of working in groups and encourages group activities.

Under this strategy, the ASPS II components put a major effort into developing integrated farming systems for its farmers through mobilization of their total agricultural household resources to raise their income as well as reduction of associated risks. Resource persons from different government extension agencies are pulled together as facilitators. Advice and

information provided to the farmers take integrated farming systems perspective. The farmers in the FFS receive a coordinated training support to improve productivity of their crop agriculture including homestead vegetable cultivation, fisheries, livestock, poultry and in nutrition and health issues.

One or more villagers with the interest and capacity to become facilitators or trainers are selected jointly by the community, programme staff and government extension staff. These persons are chosen for their communication skills and motivation to train others and undergo an intensive Training of Trainers course. Initially facilitators and trainers operate as apprentices/co-facilitators, after gaining a certain level of experiences, they run new FFSs as independent facilitators and become the community's resource person on agriculture.

FFS has become a joint platform for the government extension staff, programme staff and the trained community resource persons with differing expertise providing coordinated extension services to the farmers. The Agricultural Sector Programme Support Phase II (2006-11), which is supported by the Government of Bangladesh and Denmark, plans to support more than 700,000 poor households through 28,000 Farmer Field Schools.

## Modern fishing equipment seminar focusing danish technology

On June 26th in Chittagong, newly established fishing gear provider SRL COSMOS TRAWL LTD will organise a Modern Fishing Equipment Seminar/Workshop to highlight products and services from a Danish Delegation of leading manufactures to the Fishing Industry. The seminar will be opened by Honourable Minister of Fisheries and Livestock Mr. Abdul Latif Biswas and Danish Ambassador His Excellency Einar H. Jensen.

The seminar will be inviting all fishing operators/vessel owners, fleet management & Captains, and invitation will also be for all merchant fleet operators as well as the growing shipbuilding industry in Bangladesh. In addition to this, registrations from India, Myanmar and Thailand is already secured, so the seminar will also be with an extra international touch, Managing Director Lars Jensen forecasts.

The Danish companies presenting their technologies are:

**Cosmos Trawl A/S** is Denmark's largest and leading fishing gear manufacturer, with a history going back to 1879. Cosmos is also part of the international Hampidjan Group, who has service divisions Worldwide, and own in-house development and manufacturing of high quality netting, ropes and trawl doors.

AS SCAN has 50 years experience in manufacturing and installation of all kinds of deck machinery for marine and fishing vessels under the SCAN WINCHES name. AS SCAN also manufacture complete steering gear with hydraulic and electronic

equipment, and also have agency for propellers and nozzles etc.

**KM Fish Machinery A/S** manufactures machines and complete fish and shrimp processing systems for installation on board fishing trawlers and in land-based factories. The product program includes A.O. Grading systems, Freezers, Washers and Design of processing areas.

**Kølemadsen A/S** has been working with refrigeration machinery since 1969 and has a wide experience in installation and repairing of refrigeration machinery both on fishing vessels as well as at the coastal enterprises. Kølemadsen does everything from designing of the system, its installation and final start-up.

**C.C. Jensen A/S** designs and manufactures Offshore Oil Filtration Systems, and is the ideal consultant for ship owners who wish to increase their on-board systems' reliability and lifetime. All filters are custom designed and combine depth filtration with water separation, used for diesel fuels, lubricating and hydraulic.

**SIMRAD** is the World's most recognized brand within professional fish finding electronics. Simrad offers worldwide sales and service and manufacture advanced active sonars, echosounders, catch monitoring instruments and transducers for the world's fishing fleet.

For more information and registration, please contact Deputy General Manager Capt. Mostafa Kamal on cell phone: +880 1714306999 or by e-mail: mostafa@sr1-cosmos.com.bd

## Commercial ties between Denmark and Bangladesh gathering strength

### Trade not aid

Denmark has been providing development assistance to Bangladesh for more than three decades, mainly as grants but also through soft loans. But over the years the cooperation between Denmark and Bangladesh has moved from encompassing mainly traditional development assistance into a more mature cooperation including also trade and business cooperation. Developing and strengthening of business



The Danish Minister for Development Cooperation Søren Pind and his delegation, visiting the fertilizer factory KAFCO in Chittagong in April 2010.

cooperations are being explored intensively by private companies in Denmark and Bangladesh.

In 2000 the Embassy of Denmark initiated its first private sector programme. A Business-to-Business Programme with the focus of supporting the creation of long-term partnerships and the transfer of know-how and management skills from Denmark to Bangladesh. The overall aim of the B2B-programme was from the beginning to create jobs, foreign exchange and sustainable and long term development by supporting e.g. the creation of joint ventures between Danish and Bangladeshi companies.

### IT as the first successful focus area

Since 2000 around 70 partnerships between Danish and Bangladeshi companies have been supported. A large part of the partnerships have turned out quite successfully with long-term and beneficial partnerships for both the Danish and Bangladeshi companies.

Around one third of all the B2B-Projects have been initiated within the IT-Sector. When the sector was made a priority area five years ago the IT industry was still very much at an infant stage. The B2B-programme started by inviting groups of local companies to Denmark to identify local partners and followed-up by inviting groups of Danish companies to Bangladesh. In this way the B2B-Programme played a role in developing the IT sector and today a large number of Danish companies are working in Bangladesh in joint ventures. Some examples are Mindworking Asia and GraphicPeople, which both are companies with more than

160 employees. Even though the support given by the Embassy of Denmark to the joint ventures with local companies, in both cases has been wound up, both cooperations still exist and are growing.

"Doing IT in Bangladesh has a number of comparative advantages. The movement of 'goods' is easy, a strong entrepreneurial spirit exists and the labour force is growing and getting more and more competent" explains Einar H. Jensen, Danish Ambassador to Bangladesh.

"Not all supported joint ventures are a success, but many are and it makes me especially proud to see that some of the first projects that we supported in the IT-sector now have grown to large independent companies. I am convinced that more of the existing and supported partnerships will grow as well and be just as successful as the older ones", adds the Danish Ambassador.

### Fishery and shipbuilding as new focus areas for the Danish B2B-programme

In November 2009 the Embassy of Denmark arranged a business delegation with 21 Danish companies, who visited Bangladesh for four days looking for local partners within fishery and shipbuilding. The visit was a success and of the 21 companies four have already signed cooperation agreements and entered the Danish B2B-programme. Another four companies are expected to be following the coming months. Five other companies have started commercial relations with Bangladesh either working with local agents found during their visit to Bangladesh or working on a more ad hoc basis with different local business

partners.

"We definitely sense a growing commercial interest for Bangladesh. Perhaps it is the international downturn that makes companies look for new opportunities and increasingly the focus is being placed on Bangladesh as the country offers both a cheap production hub for exploring the Asian markets and a strong and growing local market" says Morten Siem Lynge, B2B Coordinator, Embassy of Denmark.



Fishing vessels in Chittagong.

**SRL Cosmos Trawl Ltd.** is the new service provider for all fleet in Bangladesh, and a joint venture between Denmark's leading fishing gear expert **Cosmos Trawl A/S** and Bangladeshi fishing pioneer **Sea Resources Ltd.** Their new state-of-art netloft factory was recently opened by Danish Minister for Development Cooperation and Chittagong City Corporation Mayor **ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury**, and is expected to make an important impact to the fisheries in Bay of Bengal through its significant knowhow, repair and consultancy service, besides of course being a close partner in developing improved fishing gear solutions for all industry.

### GREETINGS ON DANISH CONSTITUTION DAY

## SRL COSMOS TRAWL LIMITED

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### Contact us:

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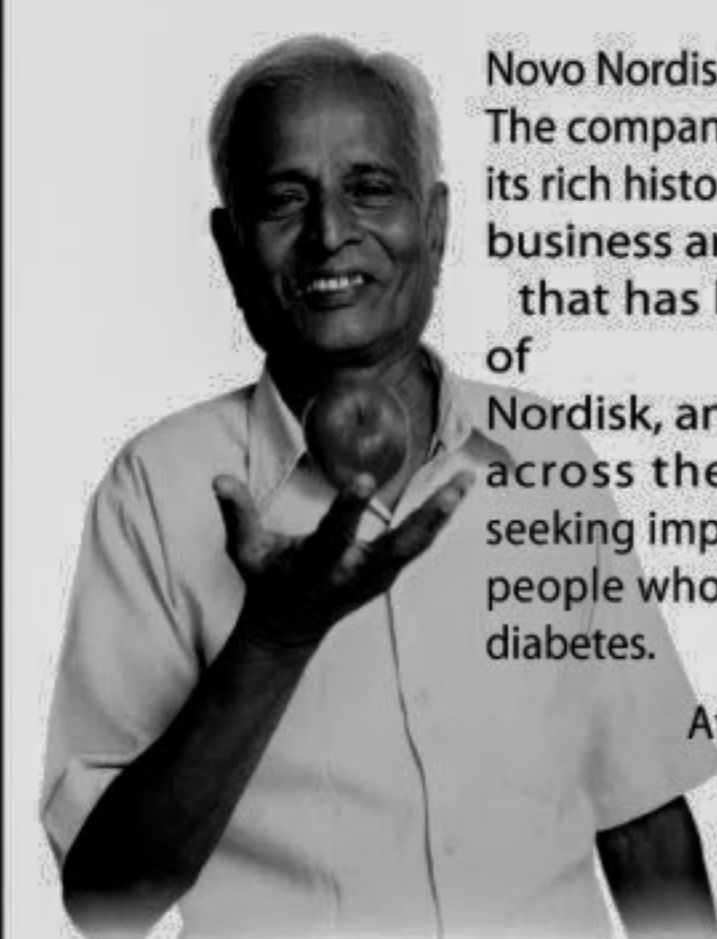
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- June 26th 2010 in Chittagong -

**Highlights:** Modern fishing gear and equipment, Deck machinery, Hydraulic equipment, Fish processing machines/turn key solutions, Refrigeration technology, Fish finding equipment, Oil filtration systems

## Changing the Way forward in diabetes



### Diabetes in Bangladesh



Novo Nordisk is a healthcare company and world leader in diabetes care. The company has stood committed to "changing diabetes" throughout its rich history spanning 80 years. Changing diabetes has been both a business and a passion with Novo Nordisk. It is this philosophy that has been the impetus for the evolution and growth of insulin products and delivery systems at Novo Nordisk, and facilitated patient care across the globe. Changing Diabetes begins with seeking improvement in order to make life better for people who have diabetes and those at risk with diabetes.

At Novo Nordisk we believe in a future where employment, control, independence and optimism will be the mindset of people living with diabetes. To achieve this we invest in research, drive new development in diabetes treatment, and offer a wide range of therapeutics and delivery systems that make life better for millions of people.

Diabetes is rising faster in the developing countries like Bangladesh than the developed countries. In Bangladesh it is estimated that the number of people with diabetes will reach almost 11.1 million by 2030. The majority of people with diabetes in Bangladesh are diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, and this occurs a decade earlier in this region than in the western world. Although the reasons for this increase are not completely understood, changes of lifestyles specially related to urbanization leading to obesity, physical inactivity and stress have been shown as principal contributing factors for Type 2 diabetes.

### Managing the pandemic

Changing diabetes is all about leadership and ownership; about making a difference to the world of diabetes today and tomorrow. It is all about enabling people with diabetes gain good glycaemic control. Today diabetes can be controlled more effectively than ever before and complications prevented through better lifestyle, diet and modern insulin therapy. Modern insulin and easy to use injection devices have been developed to enable better glycaemic control and provide for enhanced patient care. At Novo Nordisk we know we are not simply treating diabetes, we are helping people live better. This understanding fuels our passion to change the treatment and future of diabetes.



Further information is available on request from:  
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changing diabetes

