

BANGLADESH TRIP REPORT

Name/Title: Kent D. Sisson
Rita Kishore
Activity: Food & Feed Safety Assessment Trip
Destination: Dhaka, Bangladesh
Budget: \$80,000
UES Activity: Bangladesh 2022/UES
Begin date: May 20, 2022
End date: May 25, 2022

PURPOSE OF TRAVEL:

To reengage with the FAS and USAID officials, Bangladesh Government food safety and Codex officials, and other organizations conducting food and feed safety capacity building and technical assistance activities with the following objectives:

1. Meet with the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) to determine if FAEA can assist in capacity building activities for food and feed safety activities beneficial to the US livestock, dairy, poultry, animal feed and vet drug industries in Bangladesh for CY 2022 and 2023.
2. Identify the organizations that are currently assisting GOB with capacity building activities and determine if there are any activities that FAEA can plan and implement with these organizations.
3. Determine if there are any laboratory training needs and laboratory accreditation needs in the food and feed sector laboratories.
4. Assess the willingness of Bangladesh to be involved in the Codex Alimentarius meetings and issues.

OBSERVATIONS:

All four of the above objectives were met:

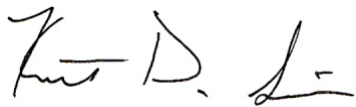
1. FAEA met with various GOB agencies. Bangladesh Food Safety Agency (BSFA) and the Quality Control Laboratory, Department of Livestock Services (DLS) provided specific areas where they require capacity building.
2. The GOB receives substantial assistance from USAID (under its Feed the Future Program), USDA, FAO, Land O'Lakes Venture 37, and private sector companies. Rather than initiate "stand alone" FAEA activities, we believe the most efficient and cost-effective way for FAEA is to engage and assist is to develop partnerships with one or more of the existing capacity building organizations to collaborate on activities that are of mutual interest to FAEA and those organizations.
3. As stated in number 1 DLS requested laboratory training. Land O'Lakes Venture 37, FAS, and International Development Group (IDG) all stated that Bangladesh needs to increase laboratory testing capacity. The laboratories also require ISO accreditation. The US exporters do not receive sample results in a timely manner thus there is a loss of revenue.
4. Bangladesh Standards and Testing institute (BSTI) is responsible for Codex coordination.

During our meetings, it was evident that there is a lack of coordination among agencies thus the Codex participation is nonexistent. We believe that the first step would be to find ways so that Bangladesh agencies cooperate and coordinate with each other.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **Collaborate with the IDG, Land O'Lakes to provide technical assistance expertise and funding resources for programs they are implementing that are of interest to FAEA members.**
2. **Work with FAS Dhaka and others to implement a training program on how US trade and regulatory agencies cooperate and coordinate with each other in drafting and implementing food and feed safety laws and regulations.**
3. **Strengthen relationships with capacity building organizations (e.g., USDA/FAS, USAID, FAO, and others) that are already present and assisting the GOB with food and feed safety training and education programs.**

Signature: _____



Date: June 20, 2022

DAILY ACTIVITY

Note: Kent provided a brief overview of the FAEA mission, membership, and activities at all meetings.

Saturday, May 21

We departed Washington DC on Friday, May 20, 2021, and arrived in Dhaka, Bangladesh on Saturday, May 21, 2022, evening., Mr. Ubaidullah Al Mahfuz, our interpreter met us at the Dhaka airport

Sunday, May 22

1. Meeting with FAS staff in the Westin Hotel lobby

FAS: Megan M Francic, Tanvir Hossain, Tanvir Ahmed, Rafiq Islam
FAEA: Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

We met with the FAS staff to get an overview of the Bangladesh food and feed safety requirements and needs.

- FAS said that Bangladesh Food Safety Agency (BFSA) prefers to implement training (projects) by themselves.
- BSFA has hired new staff officers that may require training.
- FAS suggested that FAEA meet with the BFSA lead who is implementing the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) program.
- Bangladesh is not sending WTO notifications, so FAEA can provide training on importance of WTO notifications.
- Bangladesh officers will participate in food safety Cochran program later in 2022. The team will visit the US later in 2022. The University of Tennessee is coordinating this training program.
- A consumer rights agency in Bangladesh in collaboration with consumers and restaurant owners is working on improving food safety.
- The US Grains Council held a training activity with feed testing laboratories in early 2022.
- Customs sends import samples for analyses to two laboratories (Chittagong, the main seaport, and Dhaka). FAS believes there is a definite need for laboratory training.

2. Meeting with USAID

USAID: Aniruddha Roy
FAEA: Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

Aniruddha is the project manager for all USAID sponsored projects in Bangladesh. During past years US universities along with USAID had several capacity building trainings planned but were stopped because the Bangladesh agencies did not show interest in these trainings. Bangladesh agencies are not interested in virtual training. JICA gave a loan to the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) for food safety training. BSFA is implementing this training. The cost of feed in Bangladesh is very high. Bangladesh produces 80% of the corn consumed domestically.

He said that the EU detected nitrofurans in shrimp exported from Bangladesh. USAID worked with Bangladesh to identify the source of nitrofurans. Imported fish meal was found to be the source of nitrofurans.

Bangladesh imported some Holstein bulls from the US recently. Bangladesh imports soybeans and crushes them locally. All soybean oil and meal is consumed in Bangladesh.

3. Meeting with IDG, Implementor of USAID Feed the Future Bangladesh Trade Facilitation Activity

IDG: Marc Shimon, Imrul Hassan, Syed Moazzem Hossain, Zahidul Islam
FAEA: Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

IDG said that their focus is on trade facilitation of Bangladesh exports to foreign countries. IDG is focusing on lowering transaction costs. Bangladesh has some inherent infrastructure issues that are difficult to solve. One of the big issues is that there are no direct flights from Bangladesh to many countries. There is also an issue with refrigeration. IDG is in the process of developing, printing, and distributing a traceability booklet of about ten pages. The information source will be openly available to the public. Each booklet will contain information about a specific commodity. IDG, along with the Bangladesh agriculture companies, selected the commodities.

Shipments of shrimp to the EU and Gulf countries are one of the major export items. Bangladesh has harmonized shrimp regulations with EU regulations.

IDG is also working with four private laboratories, helping them get ISO accredited. This is a long-term project. In the future, they plan to assist four more laboratories.

IDG is developing a database with information of all Bangladesh importers and exporters. This database will facilitate contacts between Bangladesh exporters and foreign buyers.

FAEA can potentially collaborate with IDG on the following activities:

- a. Providing technical expertise for laboratory certification and training. Laboratories are open to working virtually with US technical experts.
- b. Sponsoring technical teams to the US

- c. IDG will let FAEA know if it publishes a booklet on any commodities of interest to FAEA. FAEA can contribute resources to the publication of those booklets.
- d. IDG asked if FAEA would be willing to host the aforementioned database of Bangladesh exporters and foreign importers. This will be for the short-term until IDG builds a permanent website. IDG will provide all the material. FAE will consider this providing the products are of interest to FAE members.

(Note by FAEA: The EU was able to work with Bangladesh to harmonize shrimp regulations. Bangladesh apparently follows the EU shrimp regulations. We believe FAEA should encourage Bangladesh to also harmonize their regulations to the US regulations for products of concern to the FAEA members. FAEA should keep the long-term goal in mind and not limit our efforts on products we are currently exporting to Bangladesh.)

4. Meeting with Alcumus

Alcumus: Syeda Kaneez Fatima
FAEA: Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

Kaneez updated us on various activities of Alcumus. Alcumus works with the Bangladesh Agriculture University, to help them develop their capacity for training their laboratory professors and students on research regarding food safety. They also help Bangladesh restaurants and hotels to get certified and they conduct third party audits of laboratories. Alcumus is willing and interested in providing support and assistance to FAEA in implementing activities, and even being the representative for FAEA in Bangladesh.

Monday, May 23

1. Meeting with BFSFA

BFSFA: Md Rejaul Karim, Md. Abdul Kayowm Sarker, Avirup Saha, Md. Abdul Alim
FAS: Megan M Francic, Tanvir Hossain
Venture 37: Michael Parr, Quamrun Nahar
FAEA: Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

The GOB established BFSFA in 2013. Thus, it is one of the newer food safety agencies in Bangladesh. Bangladesh passed the first food safety Act in 1957. There are multiple laws and regulations regarding food safety in Bangladesh. Since 2013 BSFA along with other competent agencies are responsible for safety of all food products. BSFA hired its first batch of officers in 2020 and is providing training to those officers. The biggest challenge for the BFSFA is that many systems are not in place. Bangladesh has several small food business operators who have no training in food safety. Since, BFSFA has a small staff it is unable to visit, educate and regulate all the business operators. BSFA is working with JICA and New Zealand to implement training.

BFSA is interested in the following training:

- a. To implement an import mechanism. They want to make sure that food imported into Bangladesh is safe. For example, Bangladesh wants to learn which documents should accompany imported products.
- b. To develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on improving coordination between agencies
- c. To harmonize all their standards with Codex
- d. To implement a Food traceability system in Bangladesh
- e. Many laboratories require ISO accreditation. Since laboratories are underutilized, there is a need to develop more testing protocols.

2. Meeting with Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institution (BSTI)

BSTI: Ms. Nilufa Haque, Gazi Md Nurul Islam, Enamul Haque
FAS: Megan M Francic, Tanvir Hossain
Venture 37 Michael Parr
FAEA: Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

BSTI explained that they are the standards setting body in Bangladesh. They have standards for about 80 products. BSTI said they do not analyze fruits and vegetables. They are responsible for the Codex coordination in Bangladesh. BSTI said that there are eighteen members in the Bangladesh national committee. The members are from various agencies and do not respond to calls from BSTI to provide information on Codex issues.

FAEA encouraged Bangladesh to be active in Codex. FAEA also explained the importance of maintaining science-based decision making in Codex. We informed them that Codex will have a vote on adoption of the Maximum Residue Limit for zilpaterol, which many countries have held up due to factors outside of the Codex mandate and non-science-based arguments. Regarding zilpaterol, we stressed that it is important for Bangladesh to participate in the virtual CAC in November 2022. Bangladesh should have their Mission, where the secret ballots take place, be prepared to cast a physical vote in support of the MRL. BSTI stated that they do not make decisions regarding important Codex issues. Ministry of Foreign Affairs makes these decisions.

Potential FAEA project:

- a. Assist Bangladesh in developing a system for getting input from relevant government agencies so that they can develop positions for contributing to Codex and other international bodies regarding food and feed safety regulations.

3. Meeting with WTO Cell, Bangladesh

WTO cell: Md Hafizur Rahman
FAS: Megan M Francic, Tanvir Hossain
FAEA: Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

The WTO cell is under the Ministry of Commerce and oversees all trade facilitation projects. They do not deal with food safety standards. The agency is responsible for risk management and notification to the WTO. They said that there is a backlog of notifications, but they plan to send all notifications by end of this year. Starting next year, they will be sending notifications to the WTO in a timely manner.

Mr. Rahman said that Bangladesh law requires inspection and testing of 100% of all import consignments. Bangladesh follows Codex standards.

Possible FAEA project

- a. Land O Lakes Venture 37 is working with WTO to help automate the WTO notification process. If needed, FAEA in conjunction with Venture 37 can provide training on US management of the WTO notification process.

Tuesday, May 24

1. Meeting with the Quality Control Laboratory, Department of Livestock Services (DLS)

DLS: Md Mostofa Kamal, and other laboratory scientists during the tour
FAEA Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

Mostafa stated that the laboratory analyzes feed and food samples. Custom offices, consumers, exporters, farmers, courts, retail samples, or anyone else that wants their products evaluated may send samples to the laboratory. The laboratory analyzes about five hundred samples per month. The laboratory is ISO accredited by the Bangladesh Accrediting Agency. Tests performed include:

- a. Nutritional composition
- b. Heavy metals and residues, toxins, etc.
- c. Bovine and porcine content and water quality
- d. Bacterial and viral and fungus and parasite tests and antimicrobial resistance

We saw a video presentation regarding the laws and policies for laboratory testing. We visited the chemistry laboratory facilities. The laboratory was clean and had a variety of equipment. The laboratory seemed to be underutilized. Customs releases shipments after receipt of negative testing results. Chittagong laboratory is closer to the port, thus receives more samples from the Custom office.

Laboratory needs that FAEA can support

- a. Training of analysts in new analytical methods either virtually or in person

2. USSEC Representative in Bangladesh

USSEC: Khabibur (KanChan) Rahman
FAEA: Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

KanChan met us in the Westin hotel lobby. He informed us that there are about 350 registered feed mills in Bangladesh. Twenty percent of the population in Bangladesh engages in agriculture. The country has a 2.7MMT soybean crushing capacity which will increase by about 10,000 MT next year. Bangladesh imports most of its soybeans from the US. It does not export any crushed soybean products and consuming it all domestically. Bangladesh believes that US corn is soft and has too much moisture thus, is not interested in importing it.

Potential FAEA projects:

- a. Assist Bangladesh expanding its laboratory capacity. Bangladesh plans to increase its soybean crushing capacity, which means a potential increase in soybean imports from the US. Since all shipments into Bangladesh are subject to testing, there will be a need to expand laboratory capacity.
- b. Provide information on the US sampling methodology to help Bangladesh understand that 100 percent testing of imported food and feed products is not the only way to provide confidence that imported foods and feed ingredients are safe.

3. Meeting with Land O'Lakes Venture37

Venture 37: Michael Parr.
FAEA: Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

Venture 37 provides support to Bangladesh to modernize and simplify the trade to and from Bangladesh. They are helping Bangladesh implement a system to automate the WTO notification process. Venture 37 is helping Bangladesh implement the 2020 Trade Facilitation Agreement. They are working with Global Cold Chain Alliance, Nathan Associates, and LixCap to increase cold storage facilities. Venture 37 is also assisting government laboratories to get ISO accredited. Venture 37 stated that there is some thought in Bangladesh that the Codex office should be in BSFA instead of BSTI. Land O'Lakes Venture37 recently received a funding agreement for a new project with the US Codex Office (USCO). The project was "co-created" with the USCO and a Land O'Lakes key technical partner, the Global Food Regulatory Science Society (GFoRSS). John thinks that this is a 5-year umbrella cooperative agreement. The project covers codex member countries in Middle East, Asia, North America, and the Southwest Pacific. Work areas include outreach, institution building, and partnership activities so that delegations from countries in three regions can participate effectively in events of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC).

FAEA can cooperate with Land O'Lakes, Venture 37 on the following issues:

- a. Facilitate the implementation Ministry of Livestock regulations, “2020 Trade Facilitation Agreement.”
- b. Codex coordination among various Bangladesh government agencies
- c. Increase laboratory capacity including laboratory accreditation
- d. WTO training

4. Meeting with Masum Reja

Masum is a soybean trader and a former USSEC representative. Bangladesh ports receive most soybean products in bulk. He said that the US beans have more protein content than the beans from South America. He affirmed that the Bangladesh importers use the Chittagong laboratory over the DLS laboratory.

Wednesday, May 25

1. Seminar on Celebrating U.S.- Bangladesh Cooperation in the Livestock Sector Venue

The Minister of Fisheries and Livestock Sector (MOFL), other MOFL employees, private sector, FAS employees, and US experts on livestock and genetics participated in the seminar. See Appendix 3 for the program.

2. Meeting with FAO

FAO John Taylor
FAEA Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore

FAO works mostly with the local municipalities in Bangladesh and not much with the National agencies. BSFA, along with the Bangladesh Prime Minister participated in the 2022 UN Food Safety System Summit. Ministry of agriculture was not present at the summit. This is an indication of lack of coordination among Bangladesh agencies. Hopefully, the commitments from the Bangladesh during the summit might set a pathway to get the federal agencies to coordinate their work. FAO worked with IDG in the past. They did a project in the city of Narayanganj, to identify the weakness in the food safety systems and how to collaborate among various local authorities. FAO along with Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) hopes that other cities will adopt this model. FAO thinks that the Federal government can learn about cooperation and coordination from these cities.

Since coming back from Bangladesh, FAEA introduced Jessica Mudjitaba-Fernandez, FAS DC, and John Taylor. Jessica works on Bangladesh issues and she and her team is travelling to Bangladesh in June 2022 so they can meet each other.

FAEA can cooperate with FAO on the following issues:

- a. Coordination among various Bangladesh government agencies

Attachments

Appendix 1: Itinerary

Appendix 2: Key Contacts in Bangladesh

Appendix 3: Agenda Seminar, “Celebrating 50 years of US-Bangladesh Cooperation in the Livestock Sector”



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Appendix 1: Itinerary



Kent D. Sisson, Executive Director, FAEA
and **Rita Kishore**, Codex Coordinator, FAEA

Bangladesh visit: May 21 – 25, 2022

(All times are in local. Bangladesh is 6 hours ahead of GMT/UTC)

Date	Time	Travel/Meeting schedule
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Current Flight Information

Saturday, May 21, 2022

Qatar Airways flight QR-634, depart Doha at 0850, arrives in Dhaka, Bangladesh, at 1645.

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

Qatar Airways flight QR-639, depart Dhaka at 2305, arrives in Doha, Qatar, at 0145.

May 21, 2022 (Saturday)

4:45 PM Kent Sisson and Rita Kishore arrive at Dhaka on Qatar Airways flight # QR 0634 and met by U.A. Mahfuz outside the green channel of Dhaka airport. Rented vehicle from HELLO picks up from the airport public parking lot and drop them off at the Dhaka WESTIN Hotel, Gulshan-2, Dhaka.

Vehicle number: Dhaka Metro Gha 13-5810

Driver's name: Md. Alauddin (Sagor)

Driver's Mobile number: +88-01785546135

Hotel reservations:

Dhaka WESTIN Hotel

Main Gulshan Avenue, Plot-1, Road 45

Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh

Tel: +88-02-22291988

Embassy Contact information:

Control Officer:

Megan M. Francic, Agricultural Attaché

Email: BabcockT@state.gov

Tel: +88-02-55662854

Mobile: +88-01755625562

FAS Logistical coordinator:

Rafiqul Islam (**Rafiq**), Admin Assistant

Tel: +88-02-55662852

Mobile: +88-01730329393

Email: Muhammad.Islam@fas.usda.gov

Interpreter in Dhaka:

Engineer Ubaidullah Al **Mahfuz**, B.Sc. in CE

Mobile: +88-01621 88 44 22

Email: u.a.mahfuz@gmail.com



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Kent D. Sisson, Executive Director, FAEA
and **Rita Kishore**, Codex Coordinator, FAEA

Bangladesh visit: May 21 – 25, 2022

(All times are in local. Bangladesh is 6 hours ahead of GMT/UTC)

Date	Time	Travel/Meeting schedule
May 21, 2022 (Saturday)	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Interpreter Engineer Mahfuz travel from Baridhara to the parking lot of the Dhaka international airport
	4:45 pm – 5:45 pm	Kent and Rita arrive in Dhaka by Qatar Airways flight QR-634 and complete immigration formalities And Collect baggage from the specific belt and exchange currencies (if required)
	5:45 pm – 5:50 pm	Kent and Rita walks to the public parking place of the Dhaka international airport and met by Engineer Mahfuz at the parking lot Vehicle number: Dhaka Metro Gha 13-5810 Driver's name: Md. Alauddin (Sagor) Driver's Mobile number: +88-01785546135
	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Travel from Dhaka airport to the WESTIN hotel Check-in at WESTIN Hotel and Overnight stay
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Engineer Mahfuz departs from WESTIN and takes drop-off home Rented car driver ends his duty for the day
	May 22, 2022 (Sunday)	8:30 am – 09:30 am
9:30 am – 10:00 am		Travel from Westin to U.S. Embassy
10:00 am – 11:00 am		Meeting with USAID/Bangladesh Venue: USAID office in the U.S. Embassy, Dhaka



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Bangladesh visit: May 21 – 25, 2022

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Date	Time	Travel/Meeting schedule
		<p>Host: Aniruddha Roy (Mobile: +88-01713257360, email: aroy@usaid.gov)</p> <p>POC: Samira Habib, USAID/EG Admin Assistant, Mobile: +88-01321157494, Email: samirahabib@usaid.gov</p> <p>Visitor Access Request (VAR) has approved by the Regional Security Office (RSO) for Kent, Rita, and Mahfuz. Visitor Access Request #: ACC3097402</p>
	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	LUNCH at the Atrium of the U.S. Embassy
	12:30 pm – 12:45 pm	Travel back to WESTIN Hotel
	1:45 pm – 2:00 pm	Travel from Westin to IDG office
	2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	<p>Meeting with IDG Team Lead Marc Shimon Venue: IDG office at House - 10C (1st and 2nd floor), Road – 90, Gulshan - 2, Dhaka - 1212 Office of the “USAID Feed the Future Bangladesh Trade Activity” International Dev Group LLC.</p> <p>Participants: Marc Shimon and Imrul Hossain POC: Imrul Hasan (mobile: +88-01613041870, Email: ihasan@internationaldevelopmentgroup.com)</p>
	3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Travel from IDG to Alcumus office
	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	<p>Meeting with Alcumus Venue: Alcumus office at House 49 (apartment 3A), Road 13, Block – D, Banani, Dhaka-1213.</p> <p>Host and POC: Syeda Kaneez Fatema, Mobile: +88-01733011698. Email: kaneez@alcamus.org</p>
	5:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Travel back to Westin Hotel Overnight stay
May 23, 2022 (Monday)	8:30 am – 9:30 am	Travel from Westin to the office of Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA), BSL Complex, Hotel Intercon Annex, 1 Minto Road, Dhaka-1000



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Date	Time	Travel/Meeting schedule
	9:30 am – 10:30 am	<p>Meeting with the BFSA Chairman Mr. Abdul Kaiyum Sarkar and BFSA Member (Consumer Rights) Mr. Md. Rejaul Karim</p> <p>Venue: BSL Complex, Hotel Intercontinental Annex, 1 Minto Road, Dhaka-1000</p> <p>Participants: Megan, Dr. Tanvir, Kent, Rita, and Mahfuz</p> <p>POC at BFSA: Avirup Saha, PS to the Chairman. Mobile: +88-01811654117. Md. Rejaul Karim, Member (CR) +88-01726899089</p>
	10:30 am – 11:00 am	Travel from BFSA office to BSTI office, Tejgaon
	11:00 am – 12:00 pm	<p>Meeting with the BSTI officer who works on CODEX</p> <p>Venue: Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institution (BSTI), Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208</p> <p>Host and POC: Ms. Nilufa Haque, Director (Standards), Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI), Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208. Mobile: +88-01676467507. Email: dstd@bsti.gov.bd</p> <p>Participants: Megan, Dr. Tanvir, Kent, Rita, and Mahfuz</p> <p>POC at FAS-Dhaka: Rafiq Islam 01730329393</p>
	12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Travel from BSTI to Hotel Pan Pacific Sonargaon
	12:30 pm – 2:00 pm	<p>Working Lunch with Dr. Michael Parr, Venture 37</p> <p>Host and POC: Dr. Michael J. Parr, Chief of Party, Bangladesh Trade Facilitation Project, 40/6 Madani Road, Concord Bilkis Tower, Gulshan-2,</p>



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and Rita Kishore, Codex Coordinator, FAEA

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Date	Time	Travel/Meeting schedule
		Dhaka-1212. Mobile: +88-01322446716. Email: MJParr@landolakes.com
	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Travel from the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel to the WTO cell of the Ministry of Commerce, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000
	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Meeting with the Director General of WTO Cell Mr. Md. Hafizur Rahman, Additional Secretary, WTO Cell, Ministry of Commerce (MoC), Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000. Mobile: +88-01711861056. Email: dg.wto@mincom.gov.bd Participants: Megan, Dr. Tanvir, Kent, Rita, and Mahfuz POC at WTO cell: Ali Akbar Sarker, Assistant Secretary, WTO Cell, MoC, Mobile: +88-01795327096. Email: akbarsarker2014@gmail.com . POC at FAS-Dhaka: Rafiq Islam 01730329393
	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Travel back to WESTIN Hotel Overnight stay
May 24, 2022 (Tuesday)	7:45 am – 8:00 am	Travel from WESTIN to PRAAVA Health Clinic
	8:00 am – 8:30 am	PRAAVA clinic nurse takes COVID test samples from Kent and Rita. <i>COVID test done – result: negative – Director General of Health Institute issued Certificates to bring them to the airport immigration authority.</i>
	08:30 am – 10:00 am	Travel from WESTIN Hotel to the Quality Control Laboratory (QCL) of the Department of Livestock Services (DLS), Anwar Jung Road, Ashulia, Savar, Dhaka



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Date	Time	Travel/Meeting schedule
	10:00 am – 1:00 pm	Quality Control Lab (QCL) visit and Meeting with the Project Director. Host and POC: Dr. Md. Mostofa Kamal, Chief Scientific Officer (Virology), Deputed as Project Director, QC Lab project, Department of Livestock Services (DLS), Bangladesh, Anwer Jung Road, Savar, Dhaka. Mobile: +88 01715 805090, Email: mostofa.Kamal.phd@gmail.com Participants: Kent, Rita, and Mahfuz POC at FAS-Dhaka: Rafiq Islam 01730329393 <i>LUNCH at the QCL meeting place.</i>
	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Travel back to WESTIN Hotel
	2:30 pm – 3:45 pm	Meeting with Mr. Khabibur (KanChan) Rahman, Bangladesh Lead, US Soybean Export Council (USSEC). Mobile: +88-01714134066
	3:45pm – 4:00 pm	Travel from WESTIN Hotel to Land O'Lakes Venture 37
	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Meeting with Dr. Michael J. Parr, Land O'Lakes Venture 37 Host and POC: Dr. Michael J. Parr, Chief of Party, Bangladesh Trade Facilitation Project, 40/6 Madani Road, Concord Bilkis Tower, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212. Mobile: +88-01322446716. Email: MJParr@landolakes.com Participants: Kent, Rita, and Mahfuz POC at FAS-Dhaka: Rafiq Islam 01730329393
	5:00 pm – 5:15 pm	Travel back to WESTIN Hotel
	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Meeting with Masum Reja



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Date	Time	Travel/Meeting schedule
May 25, 2022 (Wednesday)	7:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast at Westin Hotel
	08:00 am – 9:00 am	Check-out from WESTIN Hotel And bring all luggage in the Rented vehicle
	9:00 am – 9:30 am	Travel from WESTIN Hotel to Radisson BLU Dhaka Water Garden Hotel Antara conference hall
	9:30 am – 9:50 am	Registration for the Seminar on Celebrating U.S.- Bangladesh Cooperation in the Livestock Sector
	10:00 am – 11:30 am	To attend the Seminar on Celebrating U.S.- Bangladesh Cooperation in the Livestock Sector Venue: <i>Antara</i> conference hall, Radisson BLU Dhaka Water Garden Hotel Participants: FAS Dhaka team, USLGE team, U.S. Ambassador, Host Government Livestock Minister and Secretary and many others POC at FAS-Dhaka: Rafiq Islam 01730329393 POC at the Seminar: Dr. Tanvir 01713424356
	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Travel back to Gulshan for Lunch
	12:30 am – 1:30 pm	LUNCH at a suitable Restaurant
	1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Travel to FAO office
	2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Meeting with FAO Representative in Bangladesh John Taylor Venue: FAO office, House 74, Road18, Block-J, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh. Host: John Talyer, FAO Rep, Mobile: +88- 01777709454. Email: john.taylor@fao.org Contact person: Ms. Sajia, Mobile: +88- 01313584050. Or Mr. Nur Ahamed Khondaker,



FOOD & AGRICULTURE EXPORT ALLIANCE



Kent D. Sisson, Executive Director, FAEA
and Rita Kishore, Codex Coordinator, FAEA

Bangladesh visit: May 21 – 25, 2022

(All times are in local. Bangladesh is 6 hours ahead of GMT/UTC)

Date	Time	Travel/Meeting schedule
		Assistant FAO Representative, Dhaka. Mobile: +88-01755521141.
	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Travel from FAO office to the American Club at House 13, Road 69, Gulshan-2, Dhaka
	5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Dinner at the roof top restaurant Bar of the American Club at House 13, Road 69, Gulshan-2, Dhaka Host and Contact person: Megan M. Francic, Agricultural Attaché, U.S. USDA-FAS, Embassy of the United States of America, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Mobile: +88-017 5562 5562. Email: FrancicMM@state.gov . Participants: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Dr. Marin Sieber, President/CEO, USLGE 2) Dr. Mireille Chahine, Univ of Idaho 3) Anthony E. Clyton, Clayton Agri Marketing 4) Hugh Lee McLurian, III, WW Sires Ltd. 5) Dr. Kent D. Sisson, ED, FAEA 6) Rita Kishore, FAEA 7) Megan Francic, Ag Attache
	7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Travel from the American Club to the international departure terminal of Dhaka airport
	8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Kent and Rita check-in for Qatar Airways flight QR-639. ETD 11:05 pm.
	11:05 pm	Qatar Airways flight QR-639 departs Dhaka - End of Dhaka visit -



Appendix 2: Key Contacts in Bangladesh

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Appendix 3: Agenda Seminar
Celebrating 50 years of US-Bangladesh Cooperation in the Livestock Sector

Time	Agenda
9:30 a.m.	Registration
10:00–10:30 a.m.	Inauguration
10:00–10:05 a.m.	Welcome Remarks: Megan Francic, Agricultural Attaché, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), U.S. Embassy in Bangladesh
10:05–10:10 a.m.	Guest Speaker: Mohammed Imran Hossain, President, Bangladesh Dairy Farmers' Association
10:10–10:15 a.m.	Special Guest: Dr. Martin Sieber, President, U.S. Livestock Genetics Export, Inc. (USLGE)
10:15–10:20 a.m.	Special Guest: Dr. Mohammad Yamin Chowdhury, Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MOFL)
10:20–10:25 a.m.	Chief Guest: S. M. Rezaul Karim, MP, Honorable Minister, MOFL
10:25–10:30 a.m.	Chairperson: Helen LaFave, Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy in Bangladesh
10:30–11:10 a.m.	Overview: Bangladesh Dairy Industry
10:30–10:45 a.m.	50 Years of U.S. - Bangladesh Cooperation in the Livestock Sector: Megan Francic, Agricultural Attaché, USDA and Kevin Fath, Agriculture Development Officer, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
10:45–11:00 a.m.	Status and Opportunities in the Bangladeshi Livestock Sector: Dr. Monjur Mohammad Shahjada, Director General, Department of Livestock Services, MOFL
11:00–11:10 a.m.	Success Story, Dairy Farming in Bangladesh: Dr. Md. Ainul Haque, National Project Coordinator, UNIDO, Bangladesh
11:10–11:20 a.m.	Tea and light refreshment
11:20 a.m. -1:20 p.m.	Technical Session: How U.S. Genetics Support Growth in the Bangladesh Dairy and Beef Industries
11:20–11:40 a.m.	Overview of Dairy Herd Management to Maximize Profit: Dr. Mireille Chahine, Professor, University of Idaho
11:40 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Heifer Development through First Calving in U.S. dairy cattle: Dr. Mireille Chahine, Professor, University of Idaho
12:00–12:20 p.m.	Using Genomics in your Breeding Program for Better Performance: Dr. Martin Sieber, President, USLGE
12:20–12:40 p.m.	Understanding U.S. Pedigrees and Selecting the Best Mix: Hugh Lee McLaurin, Area Director of Marketing, World Wide Sires
12:40–1:00 p.m.	Export Process from the United States for Live Cattle: Anthony E. Clayton, President, Clayton Agri-Marketing
1:00 -1:20 p.m.	Q&A
1:20–2:00 p.m.	Lunch and Networking