

Note by Inspection Panel: This Status Update was prepared by World Bank Management and provided to the Inspection Panel on February 27, 2017. The Panel is attaching this to the Notice of Non-Registration for the Bangladesh Modern Food Storage Facilities Project (P120583) as noted in Footnote 5.

Bangladesh Modern Food Storage Facilities Project (Cr. 5265-BD)

Status update (February 27, 2017)

1. *The overall development objective of the Modern Food Storage Facilities Project (MFSP) is to increase the grain reserve available to households to meet their post-disaster needs and improve the efficiency of grain storage management.* The Project will provide household-level storage facilities or family silos, particularly in the disaster-prone areas of the coastal zone.
2. *The Project is in a very early stage. No silos have been distributed and the selection of potential beneficiaries is not final.* During inception, the Project implementation agency sought feedback from potential beneficiaries, which will be taken into account when selecting the households that may obtain a silo. The beneficiary selection process is used to raise awareness regarding the use of better and safer storage of seeds and grain, including video demonstration of silo use. *Participation of beneficiary households is voluntary; no household is obliged to obtain or use a silo.*
3. *During consultations, communities expressed interest in the plastic silos for grain storage.* They also asked that such silos be anchored to secure them during disaster, and this suggestion has been accommodated in the silo design. Selected beneficiaries who elect to participate would pay a nominal price of approx. US\$1 per silo (production cost is about US\$17). Again, participation is voluntary.
4. *Household silo production has not been started yet.* The storage system design was adapted after discussions with potential manufacturers; minutes of pre-bid meetings with potential manufacturers are available. The project contains robust methods for quality assurance of the storage silos to avoid any adverse impacts. Quality control will be done by a service provider consultant, who will have the testing of raw materials and finished product undertaken by an independent laboratory, as per contract, before delivery. The production of household silos is expected to start by end March 2017.
5. Tests done by an independent laboratory, the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), show that *the raw material for the household silos is food-grade plastic, environmentally friendly, chemically inert, and unlikely to have any detrimental effect on human beings or the environment.* Food storage in plastic containers is a well-established technology. The test reports and other documentation on quality control and standards are available.
6. Potential risks and impacts have been carefully analyzed in accordance with Bank policies, and adequate mitigation measures have been put in place in the project.