

## Report-12

### **Subject : Progress report of Action plan with effect from 01-01-2015 to 31-01-2015 regarding BGAPMEA INSPIRED project.**

(i) **Arrangement of 2<sup>nd</sup> Seminar of BGAPMEA Project:**

As per the Project Action Plan, seminar/workshops were supposed to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> Month. Taking the consent of Technical Assistance Team (TAT) of Bangladesh INSPIRED and Ministry of Industries BGAPMEA has arranged the 1<sup>st</sup> Seminar last year on 09-03-2014. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Seminar was arranged the 2<sup>nd</sup> Seminar of BGAPMEA Project well ahead of the schedule time on 17-01-2015 at BICC in the exhibition of 'GAPEXPO-2015'.

The topic of the seminar was “Greening the Garments Accessories & Packaging Industries” (seminar paper is enclosed). H. E. Mr. Pierre Mayaudon, Ambassador & Head of Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh was the Chief Guest. Special Guests were Mr. Md. Farhad Uddin, Project Director of Bangladesh INSPIRED & Additional Secretary, Ministry of Industries, Dr. M. M. Akash, Economist & Professor, Dhaka University, Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, CPD. Seminar paper was presented by Prof. Dr. Feroz Iqbal Faruque, Economist & National Consultant. A lively and thought provoking discussion was held on the topic.

(ii) **Study on Guiding members with necessary policy support to meet economic shock due to unpredictable nature of market price escalation of raw materials (6.3) & Encouraging formation of cluster of packaging and accessories units for better integration (6.4) :**

These two studies were being undertaken by Prof. Dr. Firoz I. Faruque, Consultant in cooperation with the EUB (Partner-2). In the mean time, Final reports on the said studies were received. We are going through the reports.

(iii) **Undertaking Feasibility study to set up Training Institute (5.2.1):**

As per TOR & Service Contracts, European University of Bangladesh (EUB), Partner-2 has been working on Feasibility Study to set up Training Institute. In the mean time, after getting the consent from the TA Team of Bangladesh INSPIRED, a 2-member delegation from BGAPMEA & EUB had undertaken a study visit to different Packaging Institutes in India. A copy of the study visit report is enclosed herewith. In the mean time, Final Report of the study was received from EUB. The report is being considered.

(iv) **Study for Setting up of a Testing Laboratory (5.2.2) and to undertake R&D to prepare position paper ..... (5.2.5) :**

As per TOR & Consortium Agreement, TTZ-Bremerhaven, Germany (Partner-1), European University of Bangladesh (EUB), Partner-2 have been jointly undertaking these studies. The draft reports of the two above studies were received earlier. In this connection, a meeting was held on 12-01-2015 at BGAPMEA Secretariat with Mr. Faraz Rasheed Mir, Project Manager, TTZ, Germany (Partner-1). It is expected that the Final version of the two reports prepared jointly by TTZ & EUB will be submitted within February/2015. In relation to these studies BGAPMEA is planning to send a study team abroad during February/2015 for acquiring practical knowledge & experience of different Research and Testing Institutions. The outcome of the study visits will be utilized in implementing the relevant project activities.

The activities relating to setting up of a Testing Laboratory will take some more time due to the delay in starting the work of Partner-1 TTZ Bremerhaven, Germany. Although remarkable progress has already been made in this component, some of the activities such as the procurement of equipment, arrangement of physical facilities etc. will be undertaking in near future. In view of these, a request letter was sent to MoI and TAT of Bangladesh INSPIRED vide the BGAPMEA letter No. BGAPMEA/BD. INSPIRED/Report/2014/140/Part-2/129 dt 31-01-2015 seeking time extension up to the end of April/2015.

(v) **To Prepare background paper on policy and regulatory issues for advocacy and lobbying (5.2.4) :**

This study is under process.

(vi) **Installation of Bond Module Systems for issuance of Utilization Permission (UP) for raw material import (6.2) :**

This study was re-scheduled from semester-4 to semester-3. There are two technical parts for Installation of Bond Module System for issuance of UP; one is Website development and another one is Software development. BGAPMEA had already developed the website. Now the development of software is under process and it will take some more time to complete the work.