

## EvSum319

# EVALUATION OF THE UK/BANGLADESH GRAIN STORAGE PROJECT 1979-1982

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## The Project

The project provided capital assistance for store and storage site rehabilitation and technical cooperation in grain storage science and training. Total project cost was £5.045m of which £3.47m was grant aid. The remainder was locally funded. The project client was the Food Directorate of the Ministry of Food, Bangladesh. The implementation agency was the Public Works Department, Bangladesh.

## The Evaluation

The evaluation was carried out by a team of three including a consulting civil engineer, an entomologist, and an economist, late in 1984.

## The Main Findings

- The project was successful and will probably show an economic rate of return of 16%. At appraisal projections used incorrect and subjective information and inflated the expected rate-of-return.
- The preparation of the capital project Was insufficient and too great a burden was placed on the local Public Works Department. Consequently, there were project delays and material supply problems. Technical appraisal of the project proposal had been insufficient to reveal the difficulties faced by local institutions.
- Training and research were well conceived and executed, and assisted in the promotion of good storage practice. However, the over-use of chemicals and disregard for safety gave concern.
- With specific reference to the Bangladesh project:
  - the Ministry of Food should be helped to set up its own maintenance facility;
  - training in grain storage and quality maintenance continue to be necessary;
  - safety training and equipment should be provided.

## Lessons

- Projects be geographically confined to manageable areas, detailed preparation be made less dependent on overburdened local institutions; availability of sites and

materials should be thoroughly researched; bulk materials should not normally be provided from the UK; and the capability of the local contracting sector should be properly assessed.

- More objective measures of grain saving should be sought to justify investment and to monitor quality.