

Centre of Excellence Agro Food Skills Foundation (CEAFS) organized a workshop on WPL in Dhaka

The agro-food processing sector is a labor-intensive industry that has an important role in employment generation in Bangladesh. The demand for skilled labor is also growing at higher pace along with the increasing growth. But, in many cases industries can't attain their desired productivity due to acute shortage of skilled workforce. In this connection, Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) Reform Project, an EC funded GOB Project implemented by ILO, has successfully established two industrial entities, Industry Skills Council (ISC) and Centre of Excellence Agro Food Skills Foundation. CEAFS is an initiative by the ISC as one point resource and service centre in developing, supporting and strengthening the skills development system of Agro Food Processing Sector.



On 13th March 2011 CEAFS organized an awareness building workshop on **“Importance of Workplace Learning (WPL) and Training for the growth of Agro Food Processing Sector”** at BRAC Centre Inn Auditorium, Dhaka. The chief guest of the workshop was Mr. Md. Jashim Uddin, First Vice President, FBCCI while the other special guests were Mr. Arthur E. Shears, CTA, TVET Reform Project, Mr. Francis De Silva, International Advisor, Component 4, TVET Reform Project, Ms. Frances Ann

Warnock, International Expert on Preventive Approaches, FAO, Dhaka, and Mr. Ariel Miranda, Managing Director, SGS Bangladesh Ltd.

In this workshop presentations by experts covered the following areas: global practices of WPL and linkage between TVET & Enterprises; experiences of WPL in export-oriented industry; a Japanese productivity tool – KAIZEN; and importance of WPL.

Among the 53 participants the key associations represented were: Bangladesh Auto Biscuit & Manufacturing Association (BABBMMA); Bangladesh Frozen Foods Exporters Association (BFEEA); Bangladesh Agro Processor's Association (BAPA); Bangladesh Sweets Manufacturing Association (BSMA); Bangladesh Fruits Vegetables & Allied Products Exporters' Association (BFVAPEA); Bangladesh Agro Processor's Association, and PATHIKRIT-A Social & Human Development Organization.

In the closing discussion, the participants and distinguished guests unanimously agreed on the importance of the workplace learning in their industry and expressed their interest to facilitate these practices as well.