

WeGro Showcases Drone and Nano-Urea Innovations at RDA's Annual Planning Conference

From RDA's demonstration plots to fields across Bangladesh, WeGro's drone and nano-urea innovations are helping shape the next chapter of the country's agriculture.

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On 25-26 July, the Rural Development Academy brought ministry officials, agricultural scientists and researchers together in Bogura for its 36th Annual Planning Conference. WeGro joined them, alongside agri-technology partners, to help shape the rural development and applied research agenda for the year ahead.

The inaugural session was graced by the Honourable President of Bangladesh, Mr. Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, who joined the conference as Chief Guest. WeGro was privileged to have the opportunity to present its ongoing agricultural innovation initiatives and vision for the future of farming in Bangladesh.



President Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir arrives at RDA's 36th Annual Planning Conference in Bogura, accompanied by senior officials and RDA representatives. Photo: WeGro

The two-day conference brought together senior officials from key ministries, researchers from the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) and Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI), and academics from universities nationwide. At the heart of the discussions was a review of research protocols and priorities for the coming year, the scientific groundwork that will shape how the country's agriculture evolves next.

What becomes possible when technology reaches the field? That question quietly shaped much of what WeGro presented at the conference.



The inaugural session of RDA's 36th Annual Planning Conference under way in Bogura. Photo: WeGro

WeGro, an agri-fintech, took part in the conference under a Memorandum of Understanding signed with RDA earlier this year. At the conference, WeGro's contribution centred on two ongoing initiatives: its drone technology and its nano-fertilizer project, a homegrown Bangladeshi innovation developed at the Nano-bio and Advanced Materials Engineering (NAME) Laboratory of Jashore University of Science and Technology (JUST), the country's first nanotechnology research laboratory. Specifically, WeGro:

- **Demonstrated its drone-based spraying system** for efficient aerial application of agricultural inputs.
- **Presented findings from nano-urea field trials** conducted with Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) during Boro season.
- **Contributed field data to research protocol reviews** with RDA scientists, BAU representatives, and other researchers.
- **Showcased its broader work in digital and precision agriculture** to policymakers and researchers.

A drone can cover fields faster and more uniformly than manual spraying, while reducing labour and input wastage. The demonstration gave participants a firsthand look at how precision technology can make agricultural spraying faster, more efficient, and less labour-intensive.

A shared roadmap, from trial to field

Under the MoU, WeGro and RDA are setting a shared roadmap to take agricultural technology from trials to the field, and from the field to wider impact. The partnership will focus on:

- **Piloting** nano-inputs, organic fertilizers, drones, and precision technologies.
- **Empowering** farmers, youth, women, and rural entrepreneurs through training.
- **Generating field evidence** to support responsible scaling.
- **Expanding access** to digital and precision agriculture.
- **Connecting innovation with finance** through WeGro's ecosystem.



A WeGro drone pilot operates a spraying drone during a live field demonstration at RDA, Bogura. Photo: WeGro

"Bangladesh has no shortage of agricultural innovation. The real opportunity lies in connecting these innovations with field evidence, farmer needs, and the right ecosystem for scale. We are grateful for the opportunity to showcase our work in the presence of the Honourable President at RDA's Annual Planning Conference. Through our MoU with RDA, we remain committed to turning emerging technologies into practical, accessible solutions that can create lasting impact for the farmers of tomorrow."

— Md. Mahmudur Rahman, Chief Executive Officer, WeGro

As Bangladesh's agriculture moves forward, the vision is clear: **turning technology into action, and today's field trials into a smarter, stronger future for every farmer.**