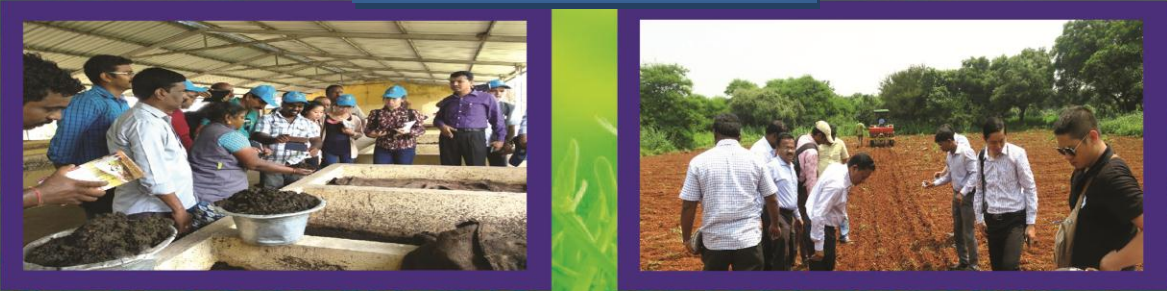




News@CIRDAP

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International Forum on Strengthening Food Safety Standards in Sri Lanka

Food safety and quality standards are global concerns as they are important for public health and impact international trade. Consumers are increasingly concerned about the quality and safety of food and are taking unprecedented interest in the way food is produced, processed, and marketed while demanding greater quality and safety assurances from agribusinesses and food companies. Globalization of trade makes food chains longer and more complex and increases the risk of food safety incidents. Food producers and exporters of agri-food products in APO-CIRDAP member countries need to update the standards and requirements for certification. In this connection, CIRDAP organized an International Forum on Strengthening Food Safety Standards from 05-08 March 2018 at HARTI, Colombo, Sri Lanka. It was supported by the Asian Productivity Organization (APO) and HARTI.

The objectives of the programme were:

- (i) To share recent developments, advanced knowledge, and emerging trends in food safety management (FSM) systems in major global markets; and
- (ii) To formulate strategic recommendations for food-industry SMEs to enable them to meet the FSM standards of advanced markets.



This forum was attended by 40 participants (26 overseas & 14 local, where 21 male & 19 female participant) from 15 countries, i.e. Bangladesh, Cambodia, Republic of China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. A total of nine (9) resource persons contributed on the forum through their presentations



and knowledge sharing. The programme has been finished successfully through the knowledge session of resource persons, field activities, country presentations and enthusiastic participation of all participants. At the end of the programme, resources persons along with participants formulate strategic recommendations from four days discussion.

International Training on Waste to Wealth - Value Recovery from Agro-processing in India

Organised by CIRDAP in collaboration with NIRD&PR, a ten-day long international training programme on *Waste to Wealth - Value Recovery from Agro-processing* was held during 19-28 March 2018 at NIRD&PR, Hyderabad, India. A total of 18 government officials [Out of 18 participants, 14 were male and seven were female] from 10 CIRDAP member countries (i.e. Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Fiji and Iran) participated in the training programme.

The objectives of the training programme were:

- (i) To familiarize with agro-food processing wastes as valuable resources for industrial and domestic application;
- (ii) To identify the opportunities of agro-waste processing for poverty alleviation and sustainability of the rural development;
- (iii) To focus on the Asia-Pacific trends of value recovery from agro-processing, and to introduce different agro-food waste processing technique to address rural livelihood opportunities;
- (iv) To equip participants with the skills of project design, operation and maintenance (O&M), and management of waste management project; and
- (v) To explain the process and importance of information, education and communication (IEC), and Behavioral Change Communication (BCC) in waste management project.



Mr. Tevita G Boseiwaqa Taginavulau, Director General of CIRDAP was the Chief Guest, and Dr. W. R. Reddy, Director General of NIRD&PR was the Chairperson of the closing session. Prof. Dr. Siva Ram of NIRD&PR was the Programme Director and Mr. Md. Zakaria of CIRDAP was the Programme Coordinator.

In this training programme, a total of ten country papers were presented focusing on Waste to Wealth Value Recovery from Agro-processing. Participants learnt different types of waste management technologies and production procedures, such as leather shoes from chicken feet skin, salacca coffee made from snake fruit seed waste, cake made from tofu waste, compost and biogas from kitchen, cow-house & cottage waste etc. At the end of the training programme, every country members presented and discussed what they learnt from this training programme and what should they do for their countries.

International Training Programme on Decentralized Governance and Delivery of Services - Way to Good Governance in India

In Asia and the Pacific region, people affected by palpable poverty are higher than the most other region of the world. To distribute governance services to these rural, poor people on basic civic needs and other sectors (e.g. education, health, water supply, sanitation, roads, communications, power, etc.) decentralization is one of the most effective and straightforward way. It can alter the complexion of distribution and provide institutional support for the delivery of services. In this context, with the support from the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India, CIRDAP in collaboration with NIRD&PR organized an international training programme on 'Decentralized Governance and Delivery of Services - Way to Good Governance' to discuss the potentiality of decentralization and share the best practices of good governance so that member countries of CIRDAP can adapt the idea of decentralization to make a good governance system, held during 19-28 March 2018 at NIRD&PR, Hyderabad, India.



The objectives of the programme were:

- (i) To discuss the international perspectives and the Asia-Pacific trends of decentralized governance;
- (ii) To share knowledge of governance, its theory and practices, and share best practices of good governance;

- (iii) To discuss decentralized governance in better service delivery;
- (iv) To develop mock action plan for decentralized governance; and
- (v) To share knowledge on the rural development programmes in India by practicing decentralize governance.

This training was attended by 15 participants (12 male & 03 female) from nine (9) CIRDAP member countries (i.e. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Fiji, Islamic Republic of Iran, Laos, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam). A total of 14 resource persons from NIRD&PR conducted session on their specialized area. Each country delegates presented their respective country papers. As per participant's evaluation, training programme was very effective and useful for them and they are very satisfied with the course contents, training methodology, field visit and overall arrangement. The valedictory session of the programme was chaired by the Director General of CIRDAP and Director General of NIRD&PR. Participants were awarded with certificates and mementos by them.

Replication of Multi Commodity Solar Tunnel Dryer at DIU, Bangladesh

With an objective to promote and encourage the production of quality dried agricultural and fisheries, CIRDAP has implemented the replication of the Multi Commodity Solar Tunnel Dryer (MCSTD) food processing technology at the Daffodil International University (DIU) permanent campus in Savar, Bangladesh during 19 February to 02 March 2018 with the technical assistance from the Philippine Center for Post-Harvest Development and Mechanization (PhilMech). In this regard, Engr. Mr. Robelyn Daquila was invited as an expert from PhilMech to demonstrate the fabrication and use of the technology. It is expected that this project will facilitate the generation of employment for the rural marginalized women and rural youth through encouraging establishment of the agro-food processing enterprise in rural area of Bangladesh.



New Staff join CIRDAP



Mr. F.A.M Zakirul Huq joined CIRDAP on 01 March 2018 as **Administrative Officer**. He has completed Masters of Business Administration from East West University and graduated in Chemistry from National University. He has also completed Post Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Management (HRM) from the Bangladesh Institute of Management and ACBA in HRM from the Institute of Business Administration,

University of Dhaka. He has attended a number of trainings pertaining to HRM, Business Communication, Material Planning and Store Management and Safety Security Management from various renowned institutes. Prior to joining CIRDAP, Mr. Zakirul Huq has worked for several organisations like Securex Pvt Ltd, AZIZ Group, Nitol TATA Motors Ltd, Scholastica Ltd, Rangs Group and KMB Ind Ltd. He has expertise on HRM, Administration, Operations Management, Procurement, Safety and Security and Transport Management.



Ms. Bindia Nag, enrolled in PhD and an M. Phil Degree holder in Social Science from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, joined CIRDAP as **Asst. Programme Officer** (Research and Training Division) on 14 March 2018. She has also completed her Masters and Hon's degree in Modern History from University of Dhaka. Prior to joining CIRDAP, she has worked as National Consultant (Communications) for FAO of the United Nations in Bangladesh. She has also served with Jawaharlal Nehru University as Researcher, Sunnydale as Administrative Officer, High Commission of India to Bangladesh as Programme Assistant – Coordinator, and Knowledge Advancement International as Programme Executive. She is an enlisted Dance artist; participated in a lot of dance competitions; and won several prizes as well.

Intern at CIRDAP



Mr. Bikash Halder joined CIRDAP on 14 March 2018 as Intern for the duration of three months to work under Information and Communication Division on the digitalizing library project of CIRDAP. He has obtained his Bachelor of Science (Hon's) Degree in Pharmacy and Masters of Science Degree in Pharmaceutical Technology from University of Asia Pacific.

Forthcoming Programmes

Date	Activities	Venue
July 2018	Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development Management (PGDRDM)	India
June 2018 to March 2019	Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC)	India
June 2018	Horizontal Learning Process	Nepal

For further details, please contact:

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