

General Guideline of Activities of CIRDAP 2020+

# Sustainable Development for Rural Communities



Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific

# Asia-Pacific Rural Development in Perspectives

## ***Poverty and Rural population***

Rural population in East Asia and the Pacific is around 40 percent whereas south Asia's rural population is about 65.5 percent.<sup>1</sup> Poverty, deprivation, mal-nutrition and hunger characterizes the rural areas of these regions. In Asia-Pacific region, 1.2 billion People still live on less than \$3.20 a day. Out of 1.2 billion, 400 million are estimated to live in extreme poverty, below the threshold of \$1.90 a day.<sup>2</sup> Poverty alleviation, food security, nutrition, local governance, livelihoods, access to basic needs, sustainable development and efficient use of natural resources – these are main burning issues of Asia- pacific regions for rural development. In alignment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 17, there is a dire need of holistic approaches for integrated rural development.

## ***Food production and Agriculture***

It is now widely acknowledged that the role of agriculture and the rural economy is fundamental for securing sustainable gains in the fight against poverty. Agriculture has strong links with other sectors - a productivity - induced agricultural expansion can "pull" other sectors with it and increase economic activity and employment opportunities in rural areas. Smallholders cultivating small plots of land characterize agriculture in Asia. It is estimated that about 87 percent of the world 's 500 million small farms (less than 2 ha) are in Asia and the Pacific region.

## ***Malnutrition/Undernourishment***

According to FAO, almost 690 million people undernourished in 2019. While most of the undernourished people lives in Asia and Africa.<sup>3</sup> Almost half (46 percent) of all children under-five of South Asia is underweight. Three countries in this region drive these high levels — Bangladesh, India and Pakistan — and alone account for half the world's total number of underweight children. Large disparities exist for underweight prevalence among urban and rural children. On average, underweight prevalence among children in rural areas is almost double that of children in urban areas in the developing world.

## ***SDGs and the progress of Asia-Pacific toward 2030***

According to SDG Progress report 2021 by ESCAP, the Asia- pacific region may achieve less than 10 percent of the SDG targets by 2030. However, the most promising progress has been made so far in good health and well-being (Goal 3) and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9). The region has also made some progress on goals for no poverty (Goal 1), zero hunger (Goal 2), quality education (Goal 4), reduced inequalities (Goal 10) and partnership for the goals (Goal 17), albeit too slow to achieve success by 2030. At the same time, the region is reverting on critical goals of climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14). Overall, progress has been very slow or stagnant for half of the goals. Some Asia-Pacific sub regions are well positioned to achieve a few of the goals. For example, East and North- East Asia is on track to eradicate poverty (Goal 1) and provide clean water and sanitation for all (Goal 6) while South-East Asia is on track to promote sustainable industry and innovation (Goal 9). However, none of the sub regions is on track on environment-related goals, and four sub-regions are regressing on climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.RUR.TOTL.ZS?locations=Z4>

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=8S>

<https://tradingeconomics.com/south-asia/rural-population-percent-of-total-population-wb-data.html>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/Social\\_Outlook\\_executive\\_summary.pdf](https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/Social_Outlook_executive_summary.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.fao.org/3/cb1329en/online/cb1329en.html#chapter-3>

## ABOUT CIRDAP

### ***What CIRDAP is?***

The Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) is an Intergovernmental regional organization, which promotes Integrated Rural Development (IRD) in the Asia-Pacific region through regional cooperation amongst Member States, Link Institutes and Development Partners. CIRDAP seeks to improve the quality of life of the far-reaching marginalized rural people, the ultimate beneficiaries of CIRDAP are farmers and rural communities.



### ***How it works?***

It provides technical and policy support to Ministries and Institutions with IRD by enabling national decision-makers, development practitioners and planners to exchange ideas and experiences on IRD and to identify areas in which collaborative efforts can be promoted for the mutual benefit of member states. CIRDAP is mandated to facilitate services that will influence policy formulation and programme development towards rural development and poverty alleviation through a network of CIRDAP Contact ministries and Link Institutions. CIRDAP's 'Core Activities' related to IRD include research, pilot project, training and education, exposure visit, consultative conference/policy dialogue, dissemination of Information, etc.

### ***Organizational Structure***

The Centre is administered by the Secretariat based in Dhaka, Bangladesh. CIRDAP has three governing bodies, namely Governing Council (GC), the Executive Committee (EC) and the Technical Committee (TC). The Governing Council (GC) is the highest policy and decision-making body of CIRDAP represented by the Ministers of the designated Contact Ministries of all member countries. It sets the overall policy and programme direction for the Centre. The primary role of the Executive Committee (EC) is to review and make recommendations to GC on matters concerning the management and operation of the Centre's activities. It is also responsible to provide guidance to the Centre on implementation of the policies and decisions. The Technical Committee (TC) is to provide technical advice on professional matters concerning work plans and strategies for implementation of the CIRDAP activities, and the interrelationships and coordination of activities carried out by the Centre under auspices of the member countries.

### ***Membership***

The Agreement for the Establishment of a Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) was registered by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on 14 June 1979 (Registration No. 17852). Government membership of CIRDAP is via accession to the CIRDAP Agreement. Any State seeking membership as a Member of the Centre would need to send a notification to the FAO Director-General "accompanied by an instrument of accession. The Agreement also provides relations with other international organizations and agencies in which the Centre may cooperate with other intergovernmental organizations and governmental and nongovernmental organizations or agencies whose interests and activities are relevant to its objectives. Any formal arrangements entered into with such organizations and agencies shall be subjected to the approval of the Governing Council.

## Development Partners










## Members and Centers

Current Member governments



### Contact Ministries and Link Institutions

| Country   | Ministries and Link Institutions  |
|---|---|
| <b>Afghanistan</b><br> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Afghanistan Institute for Rural Development (AIRD), Kabul city.</li> <li>Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD). <a href="https://www.mrrd.gov.af/">https://www.mrrd.gov.af/</a></li> </ul>   |
| <b>Bangladesh</b><br>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD), Kotbari, Cumilla. <a href="http://www.bard.gov.bd/">http://www.bard.gov.bd/</a></li> <li>Rural development &amp; Cooperative division, Ministry of Local Govt., Rural Development and cooperatives, Dhaka, <a href="https://rdcd.gov.bd/">https://rdcd.gov.bd/</a></li> </ul> |
| <b>Fiji</b><br>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management, Suva.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>India</b><br>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&amp;PR), Hyderabad <a href="http://nirdpr.org.in/">http://nirdpr.org.in/</a></li> <li>Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi. <a href="https://rural.nic.in/">https://rural.nic.in/</a></li> </ul>   |
| <b>Indonesia</b><br> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Directorate General of Rural Governance (DGRG), Ministry of Home Affairs, Jakarta.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>IR Iran</b><br>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural Planning, Economic and Rural Development Research Institute (APERDRI) Tehran.</li> <li>Ministry of Agriculture Jihad, Tehran</li> </ul>   |
| <b>LAO PDR</b><br>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Vientiane.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Malaysia</b><br>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institute of Rural Advancement (INFRA), Ministry of Rural and Regional Development, Kuala Lumpur. <a href="http://www.infra.gov.my/web/index.php/en/">http://www.infra.gov.my/web/index.php/en/</a></li> </ul>   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Myanmar</b></p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Agricultural Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Nay Pyi Taw. <a href="https://www.moali.gov.mm/en">https://www.moali.gov.mm/en</a></li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Nepal</b></p>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Development Training Academy LDTA, Jawalakhel, Lalitpur. <a href="http://www.ldta.org.np/">http://www.ldta.org.np/</a></li> <li>Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, Kathmandu <a href="https://www.mofaga.gov.np/">https://www.mofaga.gov.np/</a></li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Pakistan</b></p>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development &amp; Municipal Administration.</li> <li>Establishment division, Ministry of Establishment, Islamabad. <a href="http://ncrd.gov.pk/">http://ncrd.gov.pk/</a></li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Philippines</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bureau of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Development (BARBD), Department of Agrarian Reform. <a href="https://www.dar.gov.ph/">https://www.dar.gov.ph/</a></li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Sri Lanka</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI), Colombo</li> <li>Ministry of Agricultural, Gov. of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. <a href="http://www.harti.gov.lk/index.php/en/">http://www.harti.gov.lk/index.php/en/</a></li> </ul>      |
| <p><b>Thailand</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National FAO Committee, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Bangkok.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Vietnam</b></p>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Hanoi. <a href="https://www.mard.gov.vn/">https://www.mard.gov.vn/</a></li> </ul>  |

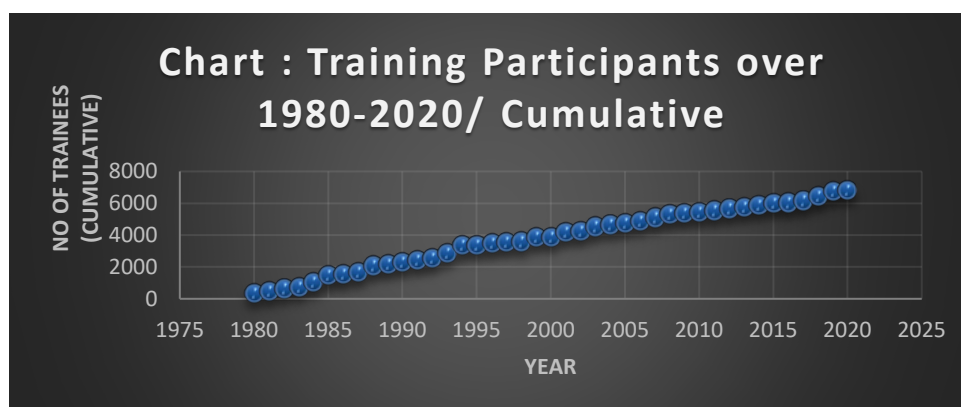
## Key Achievements

- From 1990s to 2020, CIRDAP has raised fund more than \$ 2 million USD through training and research projects
- The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific UNESCAP has recognized CIRDAP as one of its Network Centres of Excellence in Research and Training of Human Resource Development (HRD)
- CIRDAP is also a member of the Council of Advocates for World Micro-credit Summit Campaign
- CIRDAP was designated as the UN focal point institution for PopMap training in the region



## Human resource development

CIRDAP has been conducting Training Programmes, Exposure visits, Workshops, Research, Pilot Project, Consultative Conference/Policy Dialogue, Dissemination of Information etc., with the aim of capacity building in integrated rural development in Asia and the Pacific region. Since CIRDAP's inception in 1979, more than seven thousand people have participated and benefited in training and research activities. Many alumni are now leaders and senior officials in government, development agencies, academia and research institutes.



## CIRDAP's Two Brand

**Flagship Publication:** Rural Development Report (RDR) a biannual publication on a timely important topic approved by Governing Council. In every GC meeting, a topic is selected by the members based on the emerging issues of Asia-pacific region. The secretariat then published the RDR based on that research topic.

**Flagship Journal:** Asia-Pacific Journal of Rural Development (APJORD) and the worldwide Publisher is SAGE Publishing. This journal is published in two times in a year – June and December since 1991. It is devoted to the issues and discussions on integrated rural development, primarily in the Asia-pacific region. The journal provides a platform for the academicians, policymakers, development practitioners, research scholars and others interested in integrated rural development (IRD) to exchange and share ideas, opinions, field observations, and empirical findings on various facets of rural development.



## *Global Policy Development and Implementation*

CIRDAP has published Rural Development Report (RDR) which focuses and suggests various policy implications in different sectors, issues and areas of Asia-Pacific region. These policy implication and suggestion can be adopted in future.



- **RDR 2019: Food waste to wealth: Post –Harvest loss from Farm Gate to Market** – To reduce food waste and loss, the policy should be implied and focused into Food supply chains (FSC). As the potential to reduce FSC losses is considerable, implying that reducing FSC losses could be significant step towards a more sustainable use of the resources used in its production.
- **RDR 2017: Impacts of Climate Change on Rural Livelihoods in CIRDAP Member Countries** – It is recommended that the rural development and livelihood strategies of the future have to be understood as a continuum of urbanized and globalized systems. Rural policies have to be justified not only by their impact in rural areas, but by their contribution to national well-being.
- **RDR 2016: Outlook on Rural Income and Poverty in Asia and the Pacific** – CMC need to prioritize three broad sets of goals to eliminate poverty: sustained broad-based and inclusive growth, investments in human development, and social protection. Country-specific policy reforms in the CMCs need to target own specific problems and constraints and exploit opportunities for strengthening broad-based and inclusive growth. The reforms need to prioritize more spending on basic social services, social protection and infrastructure along with measures for boosting the incomes of the poor.
- **RDR 2013: Youth in Development** – To promote youth participation and development, CMCs need a key instrument which is the National Youth Policy (NYP). Most of the member countries have formulated NYP however as it is outdated and do not have plan of action, there is an urgent need for updating the NYPs. It is equally important in the process of leading to the formulation of NYP, young people should not be just consulted but should be actively involved. To facilitate the participation of young people, National Youth Council can be established. It represents the voice of young people on the primary issues that are important to them for connecting with the policy makers and planners.
- **RDR 2009: Changing Rural Livelihoods: Policy Implications for Rural Non-Farm Economy (RNFE) in terms of Development and poverty reduction** – Policymakers view the RNFE as a potential alternative to agriculture for stimulating rural income growth.
- **Regional Policy Dialogue on Decentralization:** The fifth regional policy dialogue was held in 2011 on the theme of “Decentralized Approach to Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation”. There were country reports from Bangladesh, Fiji, India. IR Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka. The CIRDAP study showed that decentralized approach to development seemed to be suited for its member countries. The main challenges include addressing the diversity among member countries, soliciting unity in its diversity, focusing on the livelihoods of rural people amidst changing economic, social and environmental scenarios.
- **The five policy dialogues and the second ministerial meeting (SMM) of CIRDAP** debated and talked about the emerging policy issues of rural development (RD) and poverty alleviation (PA). The SMM adopted the historical Dhaka Declaration which reiterated the need for integrated rural development (IRD) as a holistic approach to address the basic needs of the poor and generating productive employment on a wider scale through decentralized planned development.

# General Guideline of Activities of CIRDAP 2020+

## Work Programmes

The mandate of CIRDAP will be addressed through **three thematic work programmes** that support sustainable and integrated rural development and Poverty alleviation through policy formulation and development; and inter-governmental cooperation in the region. **Four additional cross-cutting programmes** facilitate and support implementation of the thematic work programmes:

### ***Thematic Programmes***

- *Research on Rural Development and Innovation*
- *Integrated Rural Development models*
- *Emerging issues on integrated rural development including COVID 19 pandemic, disaster risk reduction and resilience, and climate change impacts, & water resource management.*

### ***Cross-cutting Programmes***

- *Partnership cooperation and promotion*
- *Training & Education*
- *Information & Communication*
- *Gender in Integrated Rural Development*

**Implementation** Through member countries, link institutes, INGOs, NGOs, Academics and research organization, CIRDAP will implement and work on these thematic issues. The work plan is implemented the development of collaborative projects and activities by partners in the network, addressing issues of common or regional interest. Projects are essentially implemented by the Secretariat acting as a coordinating body for member countries. CIRDAP also works in close cooperation with FAO, UN specialized agencies, international development partners and other regional and international organizations in implementing the work plan.



## Research on Rural Development and Innovation

To carry out interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary action research on integrated rural development and related issues in collaboration with CLIs, development partners and projects to obtain policy advice and recommendations for improving livelihoods, economic and environment aspects and for achieving SDGs and related frameworks. The research outcome will provide policy advice and recommendations for policy makers in making better-informed choices. The key research initiatives and activities are given below:

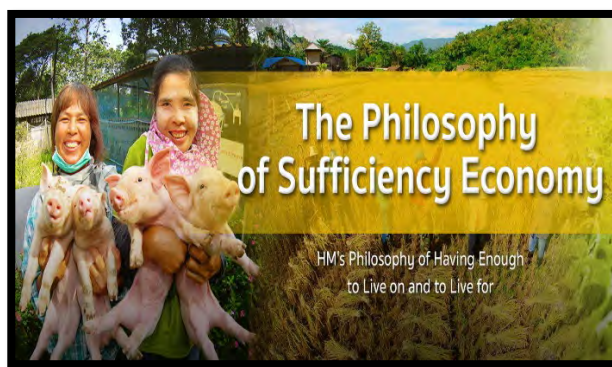


### *Key Activities*

- Moving toward an integrated national data system that enables the use and reuse of data to create economic and social values, promotes equitable opportunities to benefit from data, and foster citizens' trust.
- Utilize innovative technologies such as satellite imagery data from public and private sources to monitor food security and forecast malnutrition and to provide mapping of target communities for planning and implementing of rural development and poverty alleviation activities.
- Carry out action research on integrated rural development and related issues to meet regional, national and local priorities and needs.
- Facilitate the development of the plan of action for the national food and nutrition security and other relevant policies and strategies in CMCs.
- Review rural livelihood activities in CMCs to assess their implications for food and nutrition security and other relevant policies.
- Collaborate with other programmes of CIRDAP to carry out research to meet their respective objectives.
- Publish scholarly articles on IRD and related issues in the CIRDAP Journal (APJORD).

## Integrated Rural Development (IRD) Models

Integrated rural development (IRD) has been one of the major rural development strategies in Asia and the Pacific countries since the last four decades. Through experimentation with rural development projects pioneered by different countries, characterized by pragmatic adaptation to local conditions, several concepts, philosophies and models have been successfully applied for improving livelihoods, reducing poverty and increasing food security of rural people. Some best practice models in CMCs of CIRDAP are Afghanistan – Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Project (AREDP), Bangladesh – One House, One Farm, Fiji – The Markets for Change (M4C) project, India- Provision of Urban Amenities to Rural Areas (PURA), Iran – Integrated Programme for Sustainable Water Resources Management in the Urmia Lake Basin, Indonesia – Institutional Strengthening for Improved Village Service Delivery Project, Lao PDR – Village Banking, Malaysia –Mini Rural Transformation Centre (Mini RTC), Myanmar – National Community Driven Development project (NCDDP), Nepal – Cooperative Market development, Pakistan – National Rural Support Programme, Philippines – Sustainable Livelihood Programme, Sri Lanka – The Samurdhi Programme, Thailand - Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) and Vietnam Mekong Delta Integrated Climate Resilience and Sustainable Livelihood Project.



The models of success in these countries can be promoted through number of activities implemented by CIRDAP for the benefits of rural people in developing countries.

### **Key Activities**

- Establishment of CIRDAP Exhibition and Museum on Integrated Rural Development in Asia-Pacific (CEMIRD) to showcase best practices on -integrated rural development (IRD) models from CIRDAP member countries in both physically and digitally
- Establishment of the International Day for Rural Development (World Rural Development Day) on 6 July and organization of events to call for global attention and participations
- Coordination on awarding of Aziz-UI Haq Rural Development Medal to individual or organization including successful farmers who have contributions to rural development
- Undertake pilot projects to demonstrate successful models/practices across CMCs
- Organization of a series of workshops and seminar on IRD models in collaboration with CMCs/CLIs
- Dissemination of information on IRD models in CIRDAP website, Facebook pages, article in various publications for wider public
- Compilation of the success stories or case studies based on each IRD model

## Emerging Issues on Integrated Rural Development

The emerging global issues on integrated rural development Programme including the COVID 19 pandemic, climate change, disaster risk reduction, and water resource management, etc. provides policy guidance on key strategics and policies in CMCs. CIRDAP will focus on the following themes of emerging issues and key activities associated with them. The programme endeavors to bring to public domain the positive aspects of rural agriculture activities as a significant contributor to food security and the livelihoods of rural communities, and actively promotes south-south cooperation.

### ***Key Activities***

- Development of projects and policy guidance on emerging issues of regional interest
- Contribute to the global dialogue on climate change mitigation and adaptation in agriculture and aquaculture farming practices
- Providing a regional platform for members to develop common policies and strategies to address emerging global issues
- Facilitating the development of an environmental monitoring system to strengthen agricultural activities resilience and to improve early warning systems in the CMCs
- Evaluating the vulnerabilities of agriculture systems to climate change and related natural disasters
- Strengthening adaptive capacities of small-scale resource-poor farmers to the impacts of climate change and related natural disasters
- Adaptive learning and management in community-based agriculture projects
- Playing a catalytic role in south-south cooperation in agriculture development
- Communication of success stories in integrated rural development



## Partnership Cooperation and Promotion

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the partnership is one of the global goals for sustainable development (SDG 17). CIRDAP will be responsible for enhancing of partnership cooperation and promotion in integrated rural development (IRD). During the past four decades, CIRDAP has collaborated and cooperated with international, regional and national organizations and civil society in areas of IRD and PA. CIRDAP has 12 active agreements for multi-level cooperation in 2020.



### *Key activities*

- From 2020-2030, CIRDAP will enhance, expand and explore partnership cooperation for technical cooperation, research, innovation, knowledge and information sharing, trade and sustainable development, and capacity building, etc.
- CIRDAP will expand membership in Asia and the Pacific region
- CIRDAP will establish collaboration with regional and international organizations and Institutes. Such as Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), The Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS), International Institute for Trade and Development (ITD), International Ocean Institute (IOI), Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific (NACA), The Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), The International Emergency Society (TIEMS), The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), etc.
- CIRDAP will strengthen cooperation with UN FAO, namely; FAO Bangladesh, FAO HQ and FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in area of food security, food safety, and climate change as well as participation in FAO events such as Global Conference on Aquaculture 2020 in September 2021 in Shanghai, PR China and Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in March 2022 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- CIRDAP will establish cooperation with UN agencies and its specialized agencies. Namely- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Framework Conference on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in areas of trade, Sustainable Development, disaster risk reduction, environment and climate change, respectively.
- The South-South Cooperation will be explored for knowledge sharing and technology transfer.

## Training & Education

Training & Education Programme promotes capacity building and development among CIRDAP member countries (CMC) through the research, exchange and sharing of knowledge and skills amongst members.

- Regional training programme on IRD, Governance, Trade and Sustainable Development for Asia and the Pacific in collaboration with BARD and partners will be carried out as a flagship programme of CIRDAP scheduled for 2022 onwards.
- CIRDAP will pursue and collaborate with the link institutes to organize three to four regular training activities on various topics of regional priority.

### *Key activities*

- Identifying training needs for IRD and relevant issues in CMCs
- Identifying and organizing relevant expertise and capacities to meet the training needs
- Developing training modules and materials
- Facilitating routine education and training activities of CIRDAP
- Facilitating and coordinating exchange programmes among members and with other regions



## Information & Communication

Information & communication and its' associated technologies can help accelerate progress towards every single one of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).<sup>4</sup>SDG 9— (specifically SDG Target 9.c) and Goal 16 - are directly related in this aspect.<sup>5</sup> The Information & Communications Programme extends the outputs of the CIRDAP work programmes to the integrated rural development (IRD) in rural community at large and provides a platform for sharing information and experience. All news and publications are made available for free download via the CIRDAP website and CIRDAP E-facilities - IRD Knowledge Portal (InfoRD), IRD e-Learning Portal, Cloud Meeting Platform and state of the art E-Library that houses hundreds of books and publications published by CIRDAP and others. The expert database will be established and utilized as the CIRDAP resource intelligence for Asia and the Pacific Region.



### *Key activities*

- Communicating the outputs of the CIRDAP thematic work programmes in CMC's;
- Supporting expertise-oriented networks and sharing of expertise between individuals, institutions and member states;
- Strengthening cooperation and coordination among member government agencies, external partners and the private sector;
- Production and energizing the series of publications, including Annual report, APJORD, Rural Development Report (RDR), Newsletter, Inspiring and success story publications, webinar publication, research paper, CIRDAP Development Digest (CDD) etc.
- Producing audio and video podcasts of technical presentations given at regional meetings
- Building a regional information and applications through CIRDAP Centre on Geo-informatics Applications in Rural Development (CCGARD) on climate change, disaster risk reduction, mitigation and adaption.
- Establishing Geographic Information System (GIS)/Management Information System (MIS) and decision-support platform for IRD for Asia and the Pacific in CCGARD.
- Building library community for sharing and disseminating the information and findings of Asia and the pacific region.
- Disseminating information, publications and other activities through digital mode and social Medias.
- Establishment and utilization of CIRDAP Expert Database as its resource intelligence in Asia and the Pacific.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://en.unesco.org/sustainabledevelopmentgoalsforcommunicationinformation>

<sup>5</sup> <https://news.itu.int/icts-united-nations-sustainable-development-goals/>

## Gender in Integrated Rural Development

Across the developing world, women make up nearly 50 percent of agricultural employment. The Sustainable Development Goals (1, 2, 5 & 8)<sup>6</sup> - CIRDAP works on gender equality recognizes that empowering women also empowers and benefits men, and that the key to improve rural development, agriculture, food security and nutrition lies in the engagement of women, men, boys and girls. CIRDAP works on gender equality (SDG5) and empowerment of rural women and girls is aligned with the heart of the 2030 Agenda: leaving no one behind.

CIRDAP recognizes “*the international day of Rural Women*” on October, 15 each year as one of its major events to celebrate their contributions in different sectors in rural areas such as agriculture, food production and security and others. CIRDAP is planning to collaborate with its link institutes, member countries and partners to implement the following activities to promote gender in IRD:



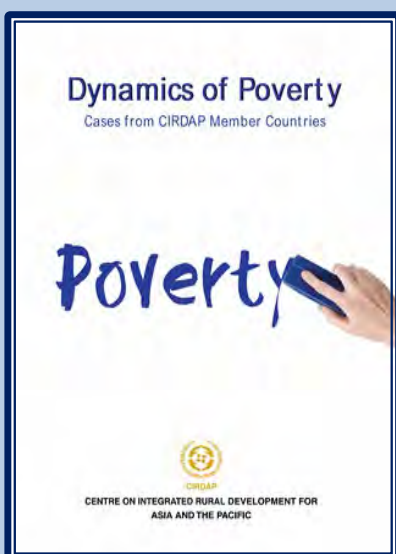
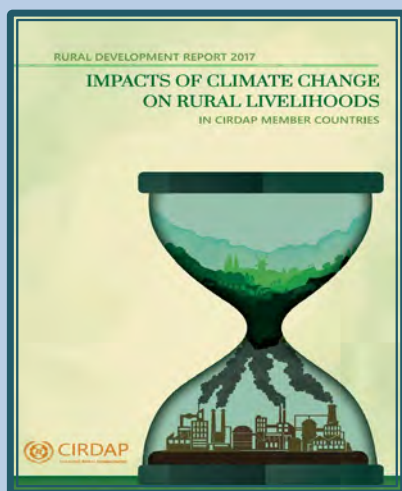
### Key Activities

- Women, Youth and Rural development Programme on empowerment, education, health and other social, cultural and political issues.
- Organizing workshop/seminar on gender and disability in rural development issues and on specific days for example: International day of Rural Women’s Day, International day for the Persons with Disabilities.
- Capacity building on gender integration and mainstreaming (training on Gender issues and empowerment).
- Publishing the In country gender assessment reports for policy, action and research.
- Publication of case studies and success stories on Gender in rural development issues in CMCs.
- Develop policy or future strategies for women’s empowerment in Asia-Pacific region.
- Networking with women organizations in Asia-Pacific regions for future collaboration.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.sdgfund.org/goal-5-gender-equality>

## Glimpse of the CIRDAP Publications



If you want to access CIRDAP's exclusive publication, please have a look at our E-Library and website:

<https://library.cirdap.org/> and <https://cirdap.org/>

Moreover, for more knowledge on different IRD issues please visit IRD knowledge portal:

<http://inford.org/>



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