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International Training Programme on Social Audit for Rural Development Programmes

CIRDAP in collaboration with NIRD&PR organized an international training programme on Social Audit for Rural Development Programme at Nay Pyi Taw in Myanmar during 15-24 January 2018. A total of 21 participants from Bangladesh, Fiji, Iran, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Myanmar (host country) and four resource/facilitators converged at the My Taw Win hotel where the aforementioned training programme took place. The programme is designed to ensure transparency, good governance, responsiveness and accountability. Social audit is a tool for social accountability mechanism that empowers the people in communities to be able to participate in planning, decision making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects.



Objectives:

The objectives of the programme were to:

- discuss the need, concept and approaches of social accountability mechanism in general and social audits in particular;
- make the participants understand the provisions of different rural develop programmes with reference to social accountability mechanisms;

- (c) enable the participants understand and critically review the approach and practice of social audit;
- (d) expose the participants to the best practices of social audit in rural development programmes in India; and
- (e) have hands on experience by conducting one mock social audit in one village.

Major Training Activities:

- (a) The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Tin Htut as Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MoALI), Government of Myanmar. Mr. Tomasi Raiyawa stressed the importance of 'leadership' on behalf of DG CIRDP in the programme.
- (b) The training began with a presentation from Myanmar's Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Department of Rural Development on Poverty Reduction Scenario of Myanmar.
- (c) Country representatives presented their individual country reports.
- (d) Then Dr. Dheeraja and Mr. Karuna Muthih presented lectures on Social Audit through PPT and video presentations.
- (e) Towards the end of the programme, participants went on a field trip to discuss with the people through mock exercise on how to conduct social audit.
- (f) And among others, Evaluation of the programme through Pre-test Form and Post-test Form by the participants.

Bangladeshi Student Delegation Exposure Visit-cum-Training Programme in India

Organized by CIRDAP in collaboration with the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), a five day-long Exposure Visit-cum-Training Programme in India for Bangladeshi Student Delegation took place during 02-06 January 2018. The delegation was comprised of a total of 20 students from top leading public and private universities of Bangladesh. The programme started with an inauguration programme, where Prof. Madan Mohan Goel, Director of RGNIYD graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Prof. Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Head, Centre for National and International Collaboration, RGNIYD welcomed the guests and described the programme brief. CIRDAP's Coordinator of the Programme, Mr. Mohammad Abu Saleh Siddique handed over the CIRDAP Crest and a set of recent CIRDAP publications to Mr. Goel on behalf of the Director General of CIRDAP.



Objectives:

The objectives of the programme were to create an international perspective among the youth against the backdrop of the national youth policy objectives, inter-alia; involve them in promoting peace and development understanding in the society; and promote exchanging of ideas, values and culture as well as to develop international understanding among the youth of Bangladesh and India.



Visit to Rajiv Gandhi Memorial.



Presentation on Panchayat Governance - Strength of India by Mr. Elango.

Highlights of the Training and Exposure Visits:

- On the first day of the programme, presentations were made on RGNIYD, National Youth Policy 2014 and India Youth Development Index 2017 by Prof. Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran; on Life Skills by Dr. Kumaravel, Assistant Professor, RGNIYD, on 'CIRDAP – A Centre of Excellence' by Mr. Saleh Siddique, and orientation on Community Radio and Central Library of RGNIYD;
- Visit to the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial;
- Visit to Kuthambakkam Village Panchayat (a model village which is renowned for the role of youth participation in village development and panchayat system, Trust for Village Self Governance as well as Self-sufficiency practice);
- Visit to the Government College of Architecture and Sculpture at Mamallapuram;
- Visit to the Cultural and Heritage Centres at Mahabalipuram including Krishna's Butter Ball, Sea Shore Temple and Mahabalipuram Beach;
- Visit to the Electronic and Multimedia Research Centre under Anna University (wherein the students had the opportunity to know about the Production of Multi-media Learning Material, E-Learning Content and Community, and Campus Radio Activities);
- Visit to the M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (i.e. Centre for Research on Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development);
- Visit to the Marina Sea Beach;
- Visit to the Tidel Park - One of the largest IT parks in Asia;
- Visit to the Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust - A Mentoring Young Entrepreneurs; and
- Visit to the Dakshina Chitra - A Living-History Museum in Tamil Nadu.

Field Visit to the CIRDAP-PhilMech-DIU Project Site

The MOU-MOA on Technical Cooperation in Technology Transfer and Enterprise Development of Philippine Center for Postharvest and Mechanization under the Department of Agriculture was signed on 06 September 2017. This was acknowledged at the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines, Consular Section, Dhaka Bangladesh in September 26, 2017. In line with the signing of MOU, the activity proposal, "Capacity Development: Up-valuing Agro-food enterprise of Selected-Bank Assisted Women's Group" was finalized and duly signed on 23 November 2017 by the DG CIRDAP Mr. Tevita G. Boseiwaqa

Taginavulau and by the Daffodil International University (DIU) Registrar Prof. Dr. Engr. A.K.M. Fazlul Hoque.

In this connection, the field visit was undertaken on 03 January 2018 to CIRDAP-PhilMech-DIU Project Site located at DIU, which was spearheaded and attended by Eva Benita A. Tuzon (Director, PPD, CIRDAP) and Ms. Najiba Rashid (CIRDAP Intern) along with Dr. Bellal Hossain with two DIU project focal experts Dr. Md. Rezaul Karim and AKM Sarwar Inam. The final (tentative) target dates of implementation were set from 19 February to 06 March 2018.



Certificate Award Ceremony

A certificate award ceremony for the participants of Bangladeshi Student Delegation Exposure Visit-cum-Training Programme in India, which was organized by CIRDAP in association with the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) held from 02-06 January 2018, was taken place at CIRDAP International Conference Centre in Dhaka on 27 February 2018. Hon'ble Director General of CIRDAP handed over the certificates among the students. Two students also shared their experience in the ceremony.



Presentation on CIRDAP E-Library

As mandated with the Vision of CIRDAP to make it Centre of Excellence in Integrated Rural Development, Director General of CIRDAP has initiated some measures with an eye to making a Digital CIRDAP. As part of the process, e-Library project was initiated last year. On 06 February 2018, Ms. Usharani Boruah (Librarian) and Mr. Prodip Kumar Aich (Project Officer) delivered a presentation on the e-Library Project at CIRDAP Auditorium where CIRDAP professional and general staff attended.

New Staff join CIRDAP



A Sri Lankan Citizen Mr. Arulappu George Chandra Babu joined CIRDAP on 22 January 2018 as **Programme Officer (Research)**. He has completed his M.Sc. in Plant Pathology from Punjab Agriculture University, India. Prior to joining CIRDAP, he worked for the Nuwara Eliya as District Director of Agriculture; for the Agricultural Research and Development Centre, Sita Eliya Nuwara Eliya as Acting Deputy Director (Research); for the Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya as Research Officer; as Visiting Lecturer (Plant Pathology) for the Dept. of Agriculture, Kundasale; and for the International Winged bean Institute, Pallekale as Research Officer. He has attended a lot of national and international workshops/trainings.



Md. Zakaria, a PhD Fellow in Entomology at Sher-E-Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka, and M.Sc. Degree holder on Agricultural Extension Education from Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), joined CIRDAP as **Senior Assistant Programme Officer (Training)** on 05 February 2018. He has 19 years of professional experience and more than 10 years in senior management position in different organizations like FAO, IFPRI, Winrock International, SAARC Agriculture Center, STOP AI/USAID, Climate Resilient Agriculture and Food Security Project funded by World Bank and other donor funded projects. During his entire career, he gained knowledge and experience on Capacity Development, Project Management, Monitoring & Evaluation, Impact Study, and Program Budgeting, Fund Raising, Liaison with donors & concern ministries, and engaged with various rural development projects.

Forthcoming Programmes

Event Calendar

Date	Activities	Venue
05-08 March 2018	International Forum on Strengthening Food Safety Standards	HARTI Sri Lanka
19-28 March 2018	International Training Programme on Waste to Wealth - Value Recovery from Agro Processing	NIRD&PR, India
19-28 March 2018	International Training Programme on Decentralised Governance and Delivery of Services - Way to Good Governance	Myanmar

Find us on



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