

# 2014

## CIRDAP

Annual Report 2014



**Centre on Integrated Rural Development for  
Asia and the Pacific**



## CIRDAP

The Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) is a regional, intergovernmental and autonomous organisation. It was established on 6 July 1979 at the initiative of the countries of the Asia-Pacific region and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations with support from several other UN bodies and donors. The Centre came into being to meet the felt needs of the developing countries at that time as an institution for promoting integrated rural development in the region.

From the original six members, CIRDAP has now grown up as a Centre of 15 member countries. The member countries are Afghanistan, Bangladesh (Host State), Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

The main objectives of the Centre are to: (i) assist national action, (ii) promote regional cooperation, and (iii) act as a servicing institution for its member countries for promotion of integrated rural development through research, action research/pilot projects, training and information dissemination.

Amelioration of rural poverty in the Asia-Pacific Region has been the prime concern of CIRDAP. The programme priorities of CIRDAP are set under four areas of concern: (1) agrarian development; (2) institutional/infrastructure development; (3) resource development including human resources; and (4) employment.

Within these areas of concern, the thematic areas identified are: Poverty alleviation through participatory approaches with emphasis on

social sector development (e.g. health, education and nutrition); Employment generation through microcredit support; Infrastructure development and local resource mobilisation; GO-NGO collaboration; Gender issues; Governance issues; and Environmental concerns for sustainable rural development.

Operating through designated contact ministries and link institutions in member countries, CIRDAP promotes regional cooperation. It plays a supplementary and reinforcing role in supporting and furthering the effectiveness of integrated rural development programmes in Asia and the Pacific.

### Vision

Prosperous rural communities enjoying improved living conditions as a result of collaborative efforts of CMCs working together and learning from each other.

### Mission

CIRDAP is an intergovernmental organisation mandated to facilitate the provision of services that will influence policy formulation and programme action towards rural development and poverty alleviation through a network of CIRDAP contact ministries and link institutions.

# **CIRDAP**

## **Annual Report**

### **2014**



**Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific**

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## 2014 *In Review* *Director General's Report*

This is the third Annual report I am presenting as Director General of CIRDAP. In the year 2014, CIRDAP has witnessed a number of achievements based on what it has already achieved in the previous year in promoting regional cooperation and exchange of experiences among CIRDAP Member Countries in the field of rural development.

In the beginning of my Report, I present Guiding Principles of the establishment of CIRDAP which clearly defines the Objectives and Functions of CIRDAP. I deliberately remind us again this very important principle to help us to measure how far we have already reached the Objectives of CIRDAP as envisioned by the founders of this regional-governmental organisation.


Over the past 35 years CIRDAP has been working relentlessly to perform its mandate to assist national action and promote regional cooperation relating to integrated rural development through a network of national institutions in member states. However, CIRDAP still has to deal with a number of challenges both internally and externally to fulfil its mandate and to be continuously relevant to the needs and expectation of its member countries.

### Engaging International and Regional Organisations

CIRDAP has continued to reengage itself with international and regional organisations related to its mandate. The goal is that by reengaging itself with international organisations both inside Bangladesh



TC 29 in progress



and beyond, CIRDAP can expand its network with international organisations at regional and global level. CIRDAP also continues to develop its relationship with regional organisations operating in the Asia and the Pacific region as part of its attempt to strengthen South-South Technical Cooperation.

In cooperation with Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, German International Cooperation (GIZ), the World Bank and JICA, CIRDAP organised Horizontal Learning Programme in Kathmandu, Nepal. Local government officials, non-governmental organisations and field officials of international aid organisations participated in four days programme. Director General CIRDAP also took the opportunity to strengthen CIRDAP's relation with Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Local Training and Development Academy in Kathmandu.

Director General CIRDAP took the opportunity in Kathmandu to have discussion with Team Leader of Local Governance Initiative and Network (LOGIN) of Swiss Development Cooperation based in New Delhi, India to develop closer cooperation between CIRDAP and LOGIN SDC. The discussion led to an agreement where CIRDAP and LOGIN will work together to organise International Networking Conference bringing local government training academies within ASEAN to be held in Jakarta, Indonesia in 2015.

In partnership with Indonesia's Institute of Local Government Services (IPDN), Ministry of Home Affairs, in Mataram, Nusa Tenggara Barat, CIRDAP organised a four-day workshop on Local Government and Decentralisation, and Horizontal Learning where Local government officials of the Province of Nusa Tenggara Barat along with students and faculties of Institute of Local Government Services participated in the programme. CIRDAP worked closely with the World Bank Bangladesh and Non-Governmental organisation to organise the programme in Indonesia.

The collaboration with Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNID), Training and Education Centre, Ministry of Youth and Sport, Government of India in Chennai is further strengthened when CIRDAP and RGNID agreed to organise a joint programme on a number of important aspects related to youth and development. The joint programme between CIRDAP and RGNID will help CIRDAP to have a very strong partnership in promoting rural youth agenda, especially with India and other CMCs as well.

One new aspect that needs to be mentioned here is that CIRDAP facilitated the student exchange programme between RGNID and Dhaka University. The exchange programme would become a model for CIRDAP to organise similar programme with other Universities/training institutes among CIRDAP's CLIs.

CIRDAP also strengthened its cooperation with Non-Aligned Movement South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM-SSTC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia. CIRDAP and NAM SSTC signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2013. Under this agreement, Both CIRDAP and NAM SSTC agreed to organise two programmes a year related to rural renewable energy and disaster risk reduction or any other issue that both agree.

As per the agreement, CIRDAP and NAM SSTC organised two international training programmes on rural renewable energy engaging CIRDAP Member Countries; the first programme was held in Surabaya, Indonesia in September 2014 while the second programme took place in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in November 2014 with a focus on micro hydropower and biogas respectively. CIRDAP is to contribute to the programme by sending micro hydropower experts from India to share India's experiences in micro-hydro power programme.



CIRDAP continues to believe it is very important to develop closer connection with academic and research institutions, which are generating knowledge and information in the field of rural development. Keeping that in mind, CIRDAP strengthened relations with Philippines based Southeast Asian Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), which with academic support from University of the Philippines at Los Banos has done a remarkable job in a number of areas such as rural development, agriculture, climate change and knowledge management.

During a visit to the Philippines in connection with International Training Programme on Geo-Information System and Disaster Risk Reduction organised by NIRD-CIRDAP and Department of Agrarian Reform, Republic of the Philippines in Manila, Director General CIRDAP took the opportunity to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Director SEARCA Dr. Saguitgut. The signing led to further discussion between CIRDAP and SEARCA in Manila led by Director ICD CIRDAP Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran to explore further cooperation.

The signing of Memorandum of Understanding was further followed by SEARCA's invitation to engage CIRDAP in SEARCA's annual Conference on Agriculture and Rural Development organised in Manila in October 2014. CIRDAP participated on thematic issue related to food processing and value added chain. Further discussion still needs to be done to explore other areas like knowledge management and climate change where SEARCA has a lot of experiences.

### ***Building Bridges***



*With Mr. Gil C. Saguitgut, Director, SEARCA. CIRDAP signed MoU with SEARCA on 2nd July 2014*



*With Mr. Prabawa. Dr. Zubaidi, DG, Training & Education, Head of Planning, Ministry of Interior, Indonesia*



*Signing of action plan agreement between CIRDAP and NAMSSTC with Director of NAMSSTC Ambassador Esti Handayani*



*With Prof. Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice-Chancellor of University of Dhaka in a MoU Signing Ceremony*

CIRDAP has taken step to strengthen its cooperation with International Fruit Tropical Network (TFNet) based in Selangor, Malaysia. Director General of CIRDAP attended TFNet Board Meeting organised in Putrajaya, Malaysia in August 2014. TFNet has a good networking partnership in area of tropical fruit both in Asia and Africa. CIRDAP will benefit in building partnership with the network. CIRDAP and TFNet had signed a Memorandum of Understanding in August 2013 to work together in organising workshop and conferences related to areas of fruit growth and value added fruit processing in the Asia Pacific region.

For years, CIRDAP, with support from NIRD, has been organising international training on good governance and decentralisation engaging local government Specialists from CMCs. There is a growing need of further advancement in the quality of the training programme and building strong partnership with CMCs's local government training Institutes. Some of CMCs's main partners in this area are Ministry of Home Affairs in Indonesia, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development in Nepal and Department of Agrarian Reform in the Philippines.

Recently, CIRDAP has taken the initiative to develop partnership with Local Government Initiative and Networking of Swiss Development Cooperation (LOGIN-SDC) based in New Delhi, India. CIRDAP has been invited to participate in LOGIN-SDC Assembly Meeting in New Delhi in December 2014. LOGIN-SDC invited DG CIRDAP to present presentation on Indonesia's decentralisation experiences in its workshop organised by the LOGIN-SDC for Mongolia and Bhutan government officials in Bangkok in July 2014.



*With Hon'ble State Minister Mr. Moshir Rahman Ranga M.O, Ministry of Local Government Rural Development and Cooperatives, Bangladesh*



*With Dr. Sanjay Pradhan, Vice President of the World Bank In Charge of Change, Leadership and Innovation in the Second High Level Meeting on Country-led Knowledge Hubs-HLM2*



*With Dr. Mahmet Fatih Serenu, Director of Statistical, Economic, Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries of Islamic Organisation Conference*



*With Ms. Thelma T. Vecine of Local Government Academy, Philippines*



CIRDAP took the opportunity in Bangkok workshop to discuss collaboration with LOGIN-SDC to organise networking workshop with local government training institutes of CIRDAP Member Countries.

LOGIN-SDC has developed its branches in Bangladesh. In collaboration with CIRDAP, LOGIN Bangladesh organised its second meeting in May 2014. The meeting was attended by twenty representatives from various institutions which primarily deal with local government activities, including Department of Local Government, Ministry of Rural Development, Cooperative and Local Government of Bangladesh. The meeting discussed Local Governance Stakeholders Analysis for 2014.

The current initiatives to engage CIRDAP with international and regional organisations is aimed at strengthening collaboration with those organisations that have similar agenda. Through cooperation and collaboration, CIRDAP hopes to have long-lasting and inclusive impact in any activity that it does since it covers wider area; and the partnership will also economise its programme financially.

Moreover, CIRDAP thus advancing itself to enhance its organisational strength and resources through better synergy and cooperation from development partners to serve its members better by offering better quality programmes with the support from competent international and regional organisations.

### Engaging with National Organisations

CIRDAP management is fully aware of the importance of strengthening its collaboration with national organisations who are dealing with rural development in CMCs. CIRDAP has to fully tap the expertises and experiences existing within its CMCs for the benefit of its Members. CMCs has its own strength in certain areas that can be shared and improved for the benefit of other CMCs.



*Meeting with Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Honourable Speaker, Bangladesh Parliament*



*With Nepal's Honourable Foreign Minister, Mahendra Pandey*



*With Dr. Sam Lal Subedi, Secretary, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Government, Nepal*



*At the 1st Asian Public Governance Forum (APG) on Public Innovation organised by OECD Korea Policy Centre in Indonesia*



CIRDAP continues to develop close partnership with Bangladesh Bank in the area of Small and Medium Enterprises in Bangladesh. In partnership with Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM), MIDAS of the United Kingdom and SME and Special Programmes department of Bangladesh Bank, CIRDAP organised international seminar titled Sustainable SMEs Development in Bangladesh in April 2014. The purpose of this conference was to make recommendations for a sustainable SMEs sector in Bangladesh by formulating long term and effective policy guidelines in the light of global perspective. The engagement with Bangladesh Bank paved the way for CIRDAP to engage with banking sector in Bangladesh.

CIRDAP also plays an active role in the promotion of SMEs Networking and Partnership development in Bangladesh with support from Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management and Bangladesh Bank. A SMEs Networking Group was formed in May 2014 and a number of organisations like Bangladesh Agro Processing Association (BAPA), IDLC, Care Bangladesh, GIZ Bangladesh, Trust Bank participated in the meeting and agreed to join SMEs Networking group. The meeting agreed on a number of critical issues such as each organisation will inform all representatives present about their ideas and programmes they are going to organise in their respective organisation; Networking meeting will be organised in each quarter; In every meeting, two organisations will present their programmes.

CIRDAP facilitated the visit by Mashad Baking Industry Co, a manufacturer of bread baking machinery from Iran to Bangladesh in partnership with Bangladesh Bank and the Bangladesh Bread, Biscuit and Confectionary Owners Association in CIRDAP Conference Hall in February 2014. The primary agenda of the meeting was how linkage from Iran could help in improving economy of Bangladesh. The Iranian delegation also had a meeting with Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce to discuss business



*With High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam,  
H. E. Abd Haris Pg Hj Shabudin*



*With Director, RGNIYD Dr. Latha Pillai*



*With H.E. Vicente T. Bandillo, Ambassador of the Republic  
of Philippines to Bangladesh in Dhaka, Bangladesh*



*With H.E. U Myo Myint Than, Ambassador of the Union  
of Myanmar to Bangladesh in Dhaka, Bangladesh*

plans to adopt Iranian technology, which is cost effective and energy efficient, in the bakery industry of Bangladesh and thus save vast amount of money and fuel energy.

Realising the need to have connection with academic organisation and knowledge generation institutions, CIRDAP has developed partnership with several universities in Bangladesh, namely Daffodil International University and Dhaka University. With Daffodil International University, CIRDAP signed a Memorandum of Understanding in May 2014 to develop strong partnership in organising seminars/conferences on issues of mutual interest as well as arranging student/faculty exchange programme with universities in other CIRDAP Member Countries. CIRDAP is particularly interested in developing strong partnership with Department of Food Sciences of Daffodil International University which will help CIRDAP to develop agenda for experience sharing programme that will help Bangladesh and other CMCs to promote small scale food processing business for the benefit of rural farmers.. In a joint discussion in august 2014, CIRDAP and Daffodil International University decided to organise an international conference on food processing in March 2015.

CIRDAP also signed a similar Memorandum of Understanding with Dhaka University in July 2014. Given the fact that Dhaka University has academic strength that can benefit CIRDAP in its academic activities, CIRDAP would benefit by engaging Dhaka University's faculties in a number of areas that both mutually agree to work in partnership.

CIRDAP continues to develop partnership with Institute of Information Management, Bangladesh Association of Librarian Information (BIM-BALID) in organising training programme on Digital Repository Software D-Space. The training programme benefits from CIRDAP Information and Communication Technology Center. The first training was organised in May 2014 while the second training with the same theme was organised in August 2014. The trainings would help to develop the capacity of Bangladesh Librarians in the latest software technology being used by the international libraries. The training were fully supported by the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology, Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh.

### **Strengthening Cooperation Among and Between CLIs**

CIRDAP organised its 28th Technical Committee Meeting in Jakarta with the belief that Technical Committee Meeting could serve two purposes. The first purpose is to benefit from Technical Committee Meeting as a forum where CIRDAP can seek input and recommendations from its Technical Committee Members. The second purpose is to use Technical Committee Meeting as a platform where Technical Committee Members who mostly represent CIRDAP's research and training institutes and ministries could learn from the best practises of rural development and agriculture of the host countries.

CIRDAP believes that Technical Committee Meeting should be preceeded by an International Workshop where the host country especially will provide CLIs from other CMCs to learn from success stories and best practices in different fields of rural development. The workshop would also be combined with field visit to the rural development programmes promoted by the government of the host country. This belief is reflected in the way 29th Technical Committee Meeting was organised in Hanoi, Vietnam in September 2014. The 29th Technical Committee Meeting was preceeded by the International Workshop where the host country, Vietnam presented two papers about their rural development programmes.

The following days after the workshop, CIRDAP discussed management issues related to functions and challenges of the organisation and the way forward. Combining International workshop and Technical Committee Meeting together hopefully will help to produce a real forum whereby each CIRDAP Link

Institute can learn from each other and return home in their respective country with some new development insights and perspectives that each CLIs learn from the programme.

Despite this new way of organising Technical Committee Meeting, one fundamental question remains: What will be the best way to strengthen closer cooperation among and between CLIs?. The number of training and workshop organised by CIRDAP and its CLIs can reflect the urgency to strengthen the cooperation among and between CLIs.

CIRDAP has conducted a number of programmes in almost all CMCs with the exception of Laos PDR and Myanmar. The number of programmes organised are not equally distributed as some countries like India ,Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia have organised international training programme on regular basis.

In cases of the programmes in Indonesia, the participants have to pay their own international ticket; In case of Malaysia and Thailand, international tickets are provided for participants coming from ASEAN Countries, while participants from non-ASEAN Countries have to pay their own international ticket.

### **Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Fellowship**

Honorable Minister of Rural Development, Government of India and the Chairperson of CIRDAP 19th Governing Council declared in the inaugural session of the GC-19 that the Government of India would offer 20 Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) fellowship to CIRDAP Member Countries. Under the ITEC programme CIRDAP Member Countries may avail various programmes offered by the Indian institutes for financial year 2014-2015 and in the coming years. The Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India will bear air travel cost ,living allowance ,the course fee, board and lodging of the participants nominated by CIRDAP Member Countries

CIRDAP has already invited nominations from CIRDAP Member Countries to nominate its candidates to 20 fellowships. CIRDAP would request its member countries to avail this opportunity to train CIRDAP Member Countries rural development managers to serve their countries better. Since the programme will be conducted every year, CIRDAP Member Countries may need to seek fund from their own governments to cover international air travel to make it possible for their own officials to participate in the ITEC programme.

### **Regional Cooperation Fund (RCF)**

The 14th Governing Council Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia on August 2003 agreed to set up Regional Cooperation Fund (RCF) on a voluntary basis for experience sharing, capacity building and human resources development among CIRDAP Member Countries. The operational mechanism of RCF was discussed and agreed by CLIs in 25th TC Meeting in Teheran in July 2010 while the proposal of conducting short research study was proposed in 26th TC Meeting in Kabul in December 2010; and 19th Governing Council in New Delhi in September 2013 approved the pocket allowance for the participant of research study and sabbatical leave from US\$ 150 to US\$ 500 per month for maximum three months period. The 19th Governing Council Meeting also approved pocket money US\$ 250 per month and international travelling ticket to come to CIRDAP for internship programme for students for CMCs.

CIRDAP management is of the opinion that CIRDAP is better focused on promoting knowledge sharing between CMCs and CLIs to foster best practises and success story of the CMCs. This can be done in a number of ways. First, by organising a number of high level forum on certain thematic issues



(like CIRDAP Regional Forum on Climate Change or CIRDAP Regional Forum on Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises, etc); secondly, organising expert exchange programme based on the need of one CMCs. CIRDAP gives priority to such programmes which foster the exchange of ideas and experiences' and encourage joint collaborative activities that may benefit the members countries individually and collectively.

In partnership with HARTI, CIRDAP organised a workshop on Reduction of Post Harvest Losses in Fruit and Vegetables Supply Chain in March 2014 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. CIRDAP's participation in a workshop organised by Government of Malaysia on ASEAN Forum to Promote Best Practises in Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Development in August 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia showed that CIRDAP needs this kind of high level forum where high ranking officials from CIRDAP Member Countries can share ideas and formulate better strategies to address the challenges in the field. Relations between CMCs can be surely strengthened if the CIRAP Regional Forum or knowledge sharing programmes can be organised based on certain thematic theme that each CMCs consider as important and would like to learn from each other. In this context, CRF can really stimulate the two type workshop mentioned above.

In the future, CIRDAP will play role as stimulator and facilitator in the field of research and knowledge generation, hence, it will work together with universities and its CLIs networking partners to organise annual forum to discuss issues related to rural development. CIRDAP decided to join Rural Research and Planning Group (RRPG). Rural Research and Planning Group which is a network of 5 universities (University Technology Malaysia, University Sains Malaysia, Institute Technology Bandung, Bogor Agriculture University, University Agriculture Tamil Nadu, University Kurushetra and University Diponogoro) to organise workshop annually. The university network recently organised The 5th International Conference and Field Study Malaysia 2014 where 30 papers were discussed on issues related to rural development. CIRDAP was invited to be part of the university network and to be present in the coming 6th International Conference and Field Study Indonesia 2015 in Bogor, Indonesia.

By being part of the university network, CIRDAP will have the access to get the best academic papers prepared by the universities, at the same time, it will help of getting access to expertises that universities have whenever CIRDAP need them. As mentioned before, CIRDAP has signed partnership agreement with Dhaka University and Daffodil International University in Bangladesh, with Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth in Chennai in India. The same partnership has already been developed with Southeast Asian Regional Center for Agriculture Research (SEARCA) that works closely with 9 (nine) best universities in South East Asia and annually organise SEARCA Regional Forum where papers from the universities partners are discussed and finally published as SEARCA annual publication.

### **Reviving SOCSEA Activities**

The decision to establish SOCSEA was agreed during the 10th Governing Council Meeting in Vientiane, Lao PDR in December 1995. The Governing Council in its meeting decided to establish Sub-Regional Office of CIRDAP in Southeast Asia. Director General of CIRDAP signed an agreement for the establishment of SOCSEA with Director General of International Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia on 21 February 1997.

SOCSEA has two basic mandate. First to look for possibility to increase membership of CIRDAP from among ASEAN Member Countries as well as East Asia and the Pacific sub-region and by doing so, it would also increase the source of funding for CIRDAP. Second, SOCSEA could conduct activities relevant to the social-cultural environment of Southeast Asian region. To ensure the functioning of SOCSEA, the Government of Indonesia agreed to provide US\$ 291.990 to meet the expenditure of



# THE 29<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR MEETING OF C

Hanoi, Vietnam,

HỘI NGHỊ ỦY BAN KỸ THUẬT LẦN THỨ  
TỔNG HỢP TỈNH CH

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# IRDAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TC29)

15-16 September 2014

TRUNG TÂM PHÁT TRIỂN NÔNG THÔN

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SOCSEA during the first two years (1997-1999). To manage CIRDAP, it agreed to depute its Deputy Director General and Assistant Administrative Officer to be in charge of SOCSEA. However, since the establishment of SOCSEA, CIRDAP never sent any official to run SOCSEA. As a result, SOCSEA have been always occupied by Indonesian Officials.

Since its establishment in 1997, SOCSEA has already conducted 75 (seventy five) programme activities including training, research, workshop in collaboration with national as well as international organisations in the field of rural development like National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Non-Aligned Movement South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM SSTC), Center for International Forestry (CIFOR), Asian Productivity Organisation (APO) and International Council of Churches Organisation (ICCO). In addition, SOCSEA also participated in facilitating 12 training programmes organised by CIRDAP i collaboration with NAM SSTC and NIRD for CIRDAP Member Countries.

Ten years after its establishment, in 15th Governing Council Meeting in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2005, the Governing Council decided to establish Subcommittee to evaluate the performance of SOCSEA. In the 16th Governing Council Meeting in Manila, the Philippines the Governing Council approved the recommendation submitted by the Sub-Committee that SOCSEA needed to be empowered, strengthened with enough financial resources, staffs and professional to capacitate SOCSEA to fulfil its mandate.

Government of Indonesia has taken serious step to renovate SOCSEA office in 2012 and did it again recently in June 2014. The renovation could be seen as serious attempt by the Government of Indonesia to endorse the importance of SOCSEA . CIRDAP Management also took initiatives to revive activities of SOCSEA. In April 2013, in cooperation with International Council of Churches Organisation, CIRDAP organised international training programme on Small and Medium Enterprises for 9 (nine) ASEAN Member Countries. In March 2014, with the support from the Director General of Rural and Community Empowerment, Ministry of Home Affairs Republic of Indonesia, SOCSEA organised International Trainig Programme on Small and Medium Enterprises in Bali for CIRDAP Member Countries; where five CIRDAP Member Countries participated in the programme.

Despite all these attempt to revive activities of SOCSEA, some fundamental issues still need to be resolved to ensure the sustainability of SOCSEA as a regional hub of CIRDAP Member Countries in Southeast Asia. The first concern is the source of funding. The Foundation Agreement signed by CIRDAP and the Government of Indonesia on 25 February 1997 stipulated that Indonesian government agreed to provide budget support to meet the expenditure for the operation of CIRDAP. There was no further discussion where the source of funding will be managed for SOCSEA after the first two years (1997-1999). During the 25th Executive Meeting and 15th Governing Council Meeting in Dhaka in 2005, decision was taken that Indonesia would enhance its contribution up to 30 (thirty) percent to be allocated for the operation cost of SOCSEA. Therefore since 2005 SOCSEA has been funded from the 30 percent deduction of annual contribution of the Government of Indonesia to CIRDAP.

CIRDAP and Director General of Rural and Community Empowerment, Ministry of Home Affairs of Republic of Indonesia has been discussing the best way to revive SOCSEA activity and to do this, there is a need to revise the agreement between CIRDAP and Government of Indonesia on the establishment of SOCSEA signed in February 1997. The revision will pave the way for the Indonesian government to provide the operational funding for the future programme of SOCSEA. However, since funding for international organisations must come from the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the discussion will need to invove the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well. The second aspect that need to be done to revive SOCSEA activity is to strengthen the management of SOCSEA. CIRDAP has invited University Proklamasi in Jogjakarta who has keen interest in promoting rural development to help assist what will be the best way to revive SOCSEA activities. The discussion is currently going on between the University Proklamasi and Directorate General of Rural and Community Empowerment concerneing the future programme of SOCSEA.



## Management of CIRDAP Secretariat

Since last year Director General Report to the Executive Council and Governing Council Meeting in New Delhi in September 2013, CIRDAP Secretariat continues to struggle with the issue of strengthening the management of CIRDAP Secretariat. Applications for the post of Director of Research and Director of Pilot Project were received and the interviews were conducted and two Directors were offered appointment.

Bringing professional staff from CIRDAP Member Countries can be a challenging task for CIRDAP Secretariat. Unlike other international organisations that can afford to offer a number of facilities to their professional employees, CIRDAP has very limited capacity to offer attractive package of benefits to its professional. Therefore, CIRDAP has been discussing with Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh about the offer by the Bangladesh delegation in the last Executive Council and Governing Council Meeting in Delhi in September 2013 to give house allowance to its staffs, including CIRDAP professionals. If the discussion is successful, it will help to provide a better housing facilities for CIRDAP Staffs, especially for its professionals.

To close my report, on behalf of the CIRDAP management, I want to reaffirm that CIRDAP, overcoming all the challenges and limitations, will continue to work for sustainable rural development eradicating poverty from the grassroots and thus bringing prosperity in the life of people of the Asia Pacific region.



**Dr. Cecep Effendi**  
Director General  
CIRDAP

## ***Policy Body Meeting***

### **29<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee Meeting of the CIRDAP**

The Regular Twenty-Ninth Meeting of the CIRDAP Technical Committee (hereinafter referred to as TC-29) was held in Hotel Movenpick, Hanoi, Vietnam on 15-16 and 18 September 2014. Delegates from all the CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs) except Myanmar attended the Meeting. H.E. the Ambassador of Sri Lanka and delegates from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Hanoi and observers and representatives of the development partners were also present during the Inaugural session.

#### **Inaugural Session**

The Inaugural session of the meeting was held on 15 September 2014 at 08:30 AM. Mr. Le Quoc Doanh, Ph.D, Hon'ble Vice Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam inaugurated the programme as the Chief Guest. The programme was also attended by Mr. Darnid A. Karim, M.Sc. Director General, Directorate General of Community and Village Empowerment (DGCVE), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Chairperson of CIRDAP 28th Technical Committee (TC-28). Mr. Tran Kim Long, Director General, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Socialist Republic of Vietnam attended the programme.



*TC 29 in progress*

In the inaugural function, Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP delivered the welcome address. Dr. Effendi thanked the Chief Guest for his kind presence despite busy schedule. He also thanked the Chairperson of the TC-28 for his kind support and cooperation to CIRDAP. He mentioned that during the last year, he tried to establish linkages for promoting regional cooperation and exchange of expertise and experiences among CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs) on rural development and poverty alleviation. Dr. Effendi mentioned that despite serious limitations of human and financial resources, the Centre has been trying relentlessly to be a vibrant organisation for the cause of the CMCs. DG, CIRDAP noted that several attempts have made to make CIRDAP a proactive organisation.

Mr. Tarmizi A. Karim, M.Sc. Director General, Directorate General of Community and Village Empowerment (DGCVE), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Chairperson of TC-28 reiterated his government's commitment to alleviate poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the rural areas. Specifically, he mentioned the need for rural communities to be considered as partners in development process.

H.E. Mr. Le Quoc Doanh, Ph.D, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was the Chief Guest, while welcoming the delegates, gave an account of the development that has taken place in Vietnam. He lauded the efforts of CIRDAP as a proactive organisation and expressed hope that Vietnam is very keen to see that the activities of CIRDAP are further strengthened to overcome the rural poverty and improve the overall living conditions of the rural poor. He expressed hope to work closely with CIRDAP and other member countries. On behalf of the Government of Vietnam, he renewed the commitments and to share the concerns of CIRDAP and its member countries. Mr. Tran Kim Long, Director General, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of Vietnam, proposed vote of thanks.

## **Business Session**

### **Agenda 1: Election of the Chairperson**

Members of TC-29 unanimously elected Mr. Tran Kim Long, Director General, International Cooperation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Socialist Republic of Vietnam as the Chairperson of TC-29. The Chairperson of TC-28 congratulated the newly elected Chairperson and thanked the TC members for their support and cooperation during his term in office. The newly elected Chairperson expressed his gratitude for being elected as the Chairperson of TC-29 and praised the performance of the former Chairperson for successfully running the TC-28 Meeting. He hoped that the TC members will continue to extend full cooperation to him to strengthen the activities of CIRDAP.

### **Agenda 2: Adoption of Agenda and Timetable**

The Chairperson of TC-29 placed the Provisional Agenda and the Timetable before TC-29 for adoption. The Committee unanimously adopted the Agenda and the Timetable.

### **Agenda 3: Follow-up Action taken on the Recommendations of TC-28**

Director General, CIRDAP reported the actions taken by the Centre as a follow up on the suggestions of TC-28 Meeting. The TC-29 took note of the actions taken by DG, CIRDAP and gave some suggestions for further actions by CIRDAP as follows:

#### **Suggestion 1:**

CIRDAP has made contact with various international organisations and have agreed to engage more in collaborative initiatives.

Effective effort should be made by CIRDAP to include more members from ECO Region in the CIRDAP Family.



Non-paying Member Countries should be encouraged to pay RCF as recommended by EC-29 in New Delhi, India.

The successes gained by the Vietnamese agriculture sector through integration with the fishery sector may be good example for many CMCs.

CIRDAP Approach to Rural Development (CARD) through seed money approach could be a useful approach may be revitalised by CIRDAP.

#### **Agenda 4: Follow-up Actions on the Recommendations of EC-29 and Decision of GC-19**

Director General, CIRDAP briefed TC-29 about outcome of the EC-29 and GC-19 meetings held in India in September 2013.

The delegates expressed their views as follows:

Rural Development Programmes need to be designed in such a way to ensure community participation for their own benefit.

Government should be involved in implementation of the programme at the grassroots level to see the multiplier effects of the programmes at various levels.

Government should consider providing necessary support to the community people to enhance their capabilities.

There are many good practices available in the CIRDAP Member Countries which need to be identified, recognised, evaluated and documented by CIRDAP for replication in member countries

#### **Agenda 5: Director General's Report on the Activities of CIRDAP**

At the invitation of the Chairperson, the Director General, CIRDAP presented the activities of CIRDAP for the period May 2013 to date which are given in Annex-8. DG, CIRDAP then explained the problem of implementation of RCF such as arranging short-term research study in Malaysia under faculty exchange between CLIs. The issues faced are as follows:

- a) Study area of the proposal is away from the CLI (travel cost)
- b) Sometimes clearance from very high-level authority
- c) Study area is a security sensitive (Anand)

TC members appreciated the Director General, CIRDAP for his comprehensive presentation and expressed concerns over the financial constraint of CIRDAP with regard to conducting its core activities. The TC members made the following observations:

The delegate from I.R. Iran expressed his thanks and support to strategy of CIRDAP.

The delegate from Indonesia expressed their support to CIRDAP through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance of the Government of Indonesia to help CIRDAP to conduct their programmes through financial support.

IRD Expert suggested that for CIRDAP to overcome its staff shortage in the HQs. CLIs may be encouraged to depute some professionals and pay the salary from CLIs and CIRDAP may compensate with other facilities.

The delegate from Thailand mentioned RCF fund has been provided to CIRDAP for long time but actual benefit has not materialised.

Member countries needing support may be accommodated in line with RCF guidelines.

The Indonesian delegate reiterated that the CIRDAP belongs to Member Countries so the problems encountered by the Centre should be solved by the Member countries. The Government should provide technical and financial support to keep the Centre functioning. Permanent budget is required for the

Centre. The delegate opined that the Centre is a unique organisation having 15 members in its fold, and needs to refocus its mission, vision and activities.

The Philippines delegate mentioned that the RCF was established to conduct specific activities (i.e. proposal to study) but the member countries, which are to host the activities, should be consulted before submitting the proposal. She recalled the decision of EC-28 and GC-18, i.e., paying countries should be given priority.

The delegate from Thailand inquired whether the university students can avail of the internship programme at the CIRDAP Hqs. through the nomination of CMCs. DG, CIRDAP clarified in affirmation.

The delegate from Pakistan mentioned the National Centre for Rural Development (NCRD), Islamabad is the prime institute in rural development in Pakistan. NCRD offers various courses like, rural development, ICT, micro-finance, poverty alleviation, etc. NCRD has collaborative partnership with private sector organisations like Taaleem Foundation, Akhuwat, NIMSS (National Institute of Medical and Social Sciences), which are partners of leading universities in USA and UK. These facilities are available and NCRD can facilitate the interested professionals under RCF.

Sri Lankan delegate informed that it has signed an MOU with Colombo University to initiate a faculty of Agricultural Economics for which Sri Lanka requires experts to prepare curriculum, CIRDAP may assist HARTI to find an expert for this.

#### **Agenda 6: Presentation from IRD Expert on Emerging Issues of Rural Development and Engagement with CLIs, CMCs and other Stakeholders**

Dr. Somporn Hanpongpanth, IRD Expert presented a comprehensive report Emerging Issues of Rural Development and Engagement with CLIs, CMCs and other Stakeholders. He noted that CIRDAP engagement on thematic areas since its inception was in right direction. He pointed out that CIRDAP addressed the issues efficiently. He also mentioned that CIRDAP was evaluated by CEC in 2009.

#### **Observation of the TC Members:**

The delegate from Malaysia pointed out the relevance of the CEC Report of 2009 in the present context. He enquired about any other evaluation conducted by CIRDAP recently. TC members suggested constituting an evaluation committee which may evaluate the activities of CIRDAP once in five years and present the report.

#### **Agenda 7: Discussion on Programme Activities of CIRDAP Link Institutes (CLIs)**

Chairperson invited honourable delegates to present their activities. Director General, CIRDAP in his introductory remarks requested the delegates to kindly identify one or two specific issues, which are relevant for the CMCs, based on which CIRDAP can engage with them. .

#### **Observation of the delegates on the activities of CLIs:**

Indonesian delegate enquired about the project on insurance of the Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries and would like to know how the beneficiaries are linked to the value chain

Iranian delegate expressed his interest to share experiences to conduct an International Workshop on “Supporting Fund for Investment Development in Agriculture Sector” or “Rural Management: Rural Islamic Council”.

The observer from TFNet wanted to know about the rural livelihoods project of Bangladesh. The representative from the Philippines wanted to know who the beneficiaries of BARD project are. The DG, BARD explained to delegates about their queries and expressed to share the project experience on agricultural insurance, if anyone is interested.

The Thai delegate in response to queries of DG, CIRDAP whether Thailand will offer same programme, which Thailand has been conducting regularly for past few years. She mentioned that her country would offer the same programme covering all CMCs provided that the CMCs have to bear the travel expenses of the participants. Thailand offered “Sufficiency Economy: “Chang Hua-Mun” Royal Initiative Project.

The IRD Expert commented that Thailand should invite either Community Development Department under the Ministry of Interior or “Office of the Agricultural Economics” under the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives to serve as consortium member from Thailand.

On the presentation from Sri Lanka, the Philippines delegate wanted to know what are the good models of Sri Lanka, which could be shared with CLIs. The representative from Indonesia questioned about vegetable cropland in Sri Lanka. The representative from Pakistan mentioned about the experience from South Korea regarding agricultural cooperatives.

The delegate from Fiji presented about the programme activities of his country. Fiji is ready to share its experience in the field of climate change adaptation and DRR.

The Indonesian delegate also enquired about the Disaster risk reduction programme of Pakistan and how to gain knowledge on this.

Pakistan offered to share its experiences from the following three initiatives /best practices:

(i) Interest free micro finance for sustainable livelihood (ii) ICT4D and (iii) Disaster Management (DRM, DRR & Disaster Risk Insurance).

The Malaysian delegate informed that Homestay programmes related to enhancing tourism may be shared with CMCs. Malaysia can also share its Rural Transformation Programmes (RTP) experience.

The delegate from Lao PDR presented about the programme activities of his country. The representative from Indonesia enquired about the seed project. The representative from Lao PDR mentioned that they produce and certify the seed in his country. The representative from Lao PDR mentioned that the farmers are trained in five selected villages on production of seed. There is a national institute for production of standard rice seed. The government institute certifies the seed. The trainers from national institute train the farmers. The IRD Expert mentioned that purpose of this project is to generate power and irrigation. This project has a lot of opportunity for agricultural development and poverty alleviation. He also mentioned that the project needs a lot of extension programme. Other CMCs may assist Lao PDR in this regard. Other CMCs may cooperate with Lao PDR in disseminating seed production and certification project.

#### **Agenda 8: Plan Programme of Activities of CIRDAP and Technical Inputs from CLIs**

DG CIRDAP presented a list of projects that were approved by CIRDAP Governing Council in its 19th Meeting held in New Delhi, India on 30th September 2013 for the biennium 2014-15 and requested CLIs to support CIRDAP in implementing them and also indicate which projects need to be followed up.

#### **Agenda 9: Discussion on Collaborative Programmes/Projects by Member Countries with CIRDAP**

Director General CIRDAP requested the delegates to identify some projects based on the discussion under Agenda 7 and 8, which may be initiated in the next year. The following projects have been identified to be implemented as joint collaboration with CLIs.





*Group photograph of the TC - 29 participants*



*TC 29 in progress*

Theme suggestions of CLIs to host and organise CIRDAP Development Forum

<i>SL. No.</i>	<i>Proposed by Country</i>	<i>Title of the Programmes</i>	<i>Date Suggested</i>
1	Afghanistan	- Promoting Local Governance for Community Development	August, 2014
2	Bangladesh	- Micro Saving: One House, One Farm (Ekta Bari Ekta Khamar)	
3	Fiji	- Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction	August, 2015
4	India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on “Decentralised Governance and Delivery of Services– Way to Good Governance”.</li> <li>- CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on “Rural Technologies for Inclusive Growth”.</li> <li>- CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on “Application of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Rural Development”.</li> <li>- CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Workshop-cum-Training Programme on Food and Nutritional Security Assurance through Efficient Response and Technology Management.</li> <li>- Post Graduate Diploma Programme in Rural Development Management (PGDRDM) (8th Batch 2014-15) Conducted by the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, India.</li> <li>- CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on ‘Application of Geo-Informatics System (GIS) for Mitigation and Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Management’.</li> <li>- Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Fellowships to CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs).</li> <li>- CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on “Results Based Management: Performance Indicators, Monitoring and Evaluation with Special Focus on Rural Wage Employment Programme”.</li> <li>- CIRDAP–NIRD&amp;PR Collaborative International Training Programme on “Sustainable Rural Livelihoods”.</li> <li>- CIRDAP–NIRD&amp;PR Collaborative International Training Programme on Geo-informatics Applications in Rural Development for Sharing Innovative and Best Practices.</li> </ul>	2014/2015
5	Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PNPM (Local Government)</li> <li>- Village Enterprises</li> <li>- Appropriate Rural Technology Fair</li> </ul>	September, 2015
6	Iran	Supporting fund for Investment in Agriculture Sector or Rural Management: Rural Islamic Council”	
7	Lao PDR	- Small Holder Farmers	
8	Malaysia	- Enhancing Rural Tourism through Home Stay Programme (Oct.2015)	
9	Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interest Free Microfinance for Sustainable Livelihoods</li> <li>- ICT for development</li> <li>- Disaster Management (DRM, DRR &amp; Disaster Risk Insurance)</li> </ul>	March/April, 2015
10	Philippines	- Lessons from Philippines: Agro-Enterprise Clustering Development Programme	
11	Sri Lanka	- Module for Agricultural Economics	
12	Thailand	- Sufficiency Economy Royal Initiative (Chang Hun Mun)	May, 2015
13	Vietnam	- New Rural Development Programme	



#### **Agenda 10: Discussion on the RDR-2015: Selection of Topic, Outline, Time Frame and Other Modalities**

DG, CIRDAP presented six themes identified by CIRDAP as the theme for RDR 2015. Suggestions were invited from the TC members. After thorough discussion, the members came out with suggestions as follows:

The majority of the CLIs selected the topic for the RDR-2015 as “Efficacy of Initiatives/ Programmes on Rural Income and Poverty Alleviation: Way Forward”. CIRDAP will provide outline to the CLIs for preparation of the report. It was also decided that the report would be discussed in regional workshop to be organised in collaboration with AHKNCRD, Pakistan in March 2015. It is expected that the output will be presented in the 7th Regional Policy Dialogue to be held in August 2015.

#### **Agenda 11: Discussion on Inventory of Good Practices on RD and PA in CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs)**

Prof. Y. Kaida, former IRD Expert, presented his paper on Inventory of Good Practices on RD and PA in CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs) and this was followed by discussion on how to use this template by the CMCs to provide information on their best practices to CIRDAP. Prof. Kaida gave some guidelines based on the example of Bangladesh template that was prepared by him. There was a suggestion that an expert should be identified by each country to do this kind of compilation. However, the member countries expressed that it will involve some cost. DG, CIRDAP suggested that CIRDAP would begin this work for countries, which are close to Bangladesh by sending its own professional to countries like Nepal, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

#### **Agenda 12: Discussion on the Utilisation of RCF Based on the New Directives of EC-29 & GC-19**

Director General, CIRDAP briefed about the present position of RCF. The CLIs delegates provided the following observations:

The delegate from Thailand wanted to know how long the RCF could last.

The Bangladesh delegate wanted to focus on programmes and research with tangible outcomes.

The IRD Expert mentioned that since fund is collected voluntarily all countries should participate and a Workshop on best practice utilising the RCF could be organised. Organisation of workshop using RCF should be on prioritisation. The host country should be responsible for organising the workshop; government of the organising country should cover local hospitality cost.

The delegate from Philippines mentioned that it took 5 years to create RCF. She mentioned about expert exchange between CLIs. She also mentioned all countries should participate. However, priority should be given to paying countries.

The delegate from Indonesia mentioned that we must prioritise our activities and scrutinise the programmes. Indonesian delegate indicated to offer SME programmes for CMCs through CIRDAP. Indonesia will meet the local hospitality. However, international travel cost will be borne by respective CMCs.

The delegate from Afghanistan mentioned that we could take both activities i.e. regional forums and workshop. CIRDAP may write to GC and mention that TC agreed on these suggestions.

#### **Agenda 13: Other Matters**

Under this agenda four proposals were presented as follows

##### **Expansion of the CIRDAP Membership**

Director General, CIRDAP sought support from the honourable delegates to expand the membership of CIRDAP.

### **Suggestions:**

- DG, CIRDAP may like to invite the some potential countries to participate in the forthcoming EC/GC as observer.
- Fiji is requested to help to increase the CIRDAP membership from the Pacific Islands.
- Iran may like to help CIRDAP Secretariat to increase membership from ECO region.

### **Member Country Contribution**

Director General mentioned that the contribution was last revised in the year 2000. There is a need to review.

### **CDF as an Annual Event and Selection of Theme for Next Year**

DG, CIRDAP proposed that Workshops organised during TC Meetings could be called as CIRDAP Development Forum (CDF).

### **Suggestion:**

- The meeting unanimously approved the proposal.

### **Corpus Fund**

DG CIRDAP reported that GC approved the Corpus Fund Utilisation.

### **Suggestion:**

The Concept paper may be put up again to EC and GC, as CIRDAP hired consultant and spent money on concept paper of Corpus Fund

### **Agenda 14: Date and Venue of the Next Technical Committee Meeting**

The delegate from Fiji informed that the Government of Fiji would host the EC-30 and GC-20 meetings in Fiji. CIRDAP should finalise the date of the Meeting. It was tentatively decided that the EC-30 and GC-20 Meeting will be held in last week of August 2015 in Fiji.

DG, CIRDAP brought to the notice of TC delegates in TC-28 in Jakarta that Fiji had offered to host TC-30 in 2015. But subsequently in EC-29 and GC-19 meetings in New Delhi, as Indonesia which had offered to host GC 20 in 2015 withdrew, DG, CIRDAP requested Fiji to host EC-30 and GC-20 & Fiji agreed. In this circumstance, since it is not the practice that one country to host all three meetings and be chairperson for TC, EC and GC, DG invited suggestions from the members. The suggestion was that TC meeting need not be held in 2015.

DG, CIRDAP suggested that since time is very short for CIRDAP to prepare for all the three meetings, to hold a workshop to discuss the theme of RDR and requested any country to host it. Suggestion came that Sri Lanka, Lao PDR or Pakistan may host it. Pakistan delegate agreed to host this workshop in March 2015. DG, CIRDAP said that experts along with TC members will be invited.

### **Agenda 15: Adoption of the Report**

The Meeting ended with vote of thanks by DG, CIRDAP.

The Chairperson of TC-29 on behalf of host country thanked all TC members and observers for useful suggestions and for the successful organisation of TC meeting. He also thanked the CIRDAP officials for all support in organising the TC-29 meeting successfully.



## Research

- Sharing Best Practices on Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation
- Exchanging experience in SME Development
- Microfinance and poverty, Alleviation Program
- Sustainable SME Development in Bangladesh
- Connecting the stakeholders and building partnership for cooperation
- Discussion with Youth Forum of Bangladesh
- Youth in Agriculture and Volunteerism in Bangladesh

### Focus Areas

- SME development
- Skill Development
- Youth in Development
- Institutional Capabilities
- Microfinance
- Networking with Donors





Over the last thirty five years between 1979 and 2014, the Research Division has undertaken 111 projects including 11 national and international workshops and seminars. Out of 100 projects 99 are completed and one is on-going. The country coverage of the projects and activities is fairly widespread in terms of inclusion of the CMCs. The programme priorities and the activities undertaken have covered many areas spanning rural poor and disadvantaged groups, gender issues, impact of rural development on poverty reduction via increases in productivity, incomes, and employment generation, agrarian reforms, small farms and cooperatives, poverty monitoring, environment, and macro policy issues etc.

CIRDAP currently operates under severe fund constraints and as a result Research Division is experiencing declining trend of funds for research projects. With decline in the flow of donor funding since mid 1990s and withdrawal of the Government of Japan as a principal partner in 2000, Research Division activities have decreased considerably. Besides shortage of funds, staff limitation is also a serious constraint affecting the Division which is currently operating with much less staff than sanctioned and needed. Thus recruitment of more professional staff and a core fund are the immediate needs to enable it to pursue vigorous efforts in developing new plans and ideas, undertake new projects and follow-up the completed projects for impact assessment.

Keeping in view the limited resources, the research division has implemented several activities during the year 2014. A brief review of these activities is provided below:

### International Workshop on Sharing Best Practices on Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation



*Workshop on sharing best practices on rural development and poverty alleviation in CIRDAP Member Countries*

CIRDAP organises an International Workshop on sharing best practices on rural development and poverty alleviation in CIRDAP Member Countries during 17-18 September 2014 back to back of its regular meeting of the Technical Committee (TC-29) in Hanoi, Vietnam. The International Workshop aiming to disseminate the best practice of Vietnam and other CMCs and facilitate a forum to build stronger collaboration between and among CIRDAP Member Country's Link Institutes and other

relevant institutions in the Asia and Pacific region through sharing their respective countries successful programmes on rural development and poverty alleviation. It was also expected that the sharing of best practices will create scopes and opportunities of learning from each other; identifying strength and gaps whereby each CIRDAP's Link Institutes will help each other with their comparative strength in relevant areas. At the same time CIRDAP being a regional organisation will extend support through planned action for exposure visits, in country training, facilitate research study and also engaging experts from CIRDAP member countries to deliver lecture in other CIRDAP member countries. It may be mentioned here that CIRDAP has taken initiative since 2012 as per suggestion of its policy bodies to prepare a brief paper on the best practices on rural development and poverty alleviation. The CLIs prepared and presented in the TC-27 and TC-28 meetings held in Sri Lanka in June 2012 and in Jakarta in August 2013. It is encouraging to note that all 15 CLIs have participating along with their presentation of the best practices. Best Practices/Programmes of CMCs presented in the TC-29 meeting are:

1. Afghanistan- Strategic Intent 1389-1393(2010 - 2014)
2. Best Practices on Rural Development (RD) and Poverty Alleviation (PA) of Bangladesh
3. Rural Development Best Practices– Fiji
4. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) – A Best Practice in India
5. Rural Community Empowerment Programme in Indonesia
6. Supporting Fund for Investment Development in Agriculture Sector (SFIDANGO) as a Best Practice in Iran
7. Enhancing district delivery and management of agriculture extension in Lao PDR
8. Skills Training and Career Programme (Program Latihan Kemahiran dan Kerjaya (PLKK): A Malaysian Government Policy Programme for Poverty Eradication/ Rural Transformation Programme



*Field Visit on sharing best practices on rural development of Vietnam*



9. Training Making wonderful Change in Dhanusha District; A Case Study of Best Practices in Nepal
10. Pakistan- Akhuwat: The first interest-free micro-finance network in the world
11. Philippines- Moving Together to the Market: The Clustering Approach to Agro-enterprise Development for Small Farmers
12. Supplying Vegetables through Super market Channels as a Mechanism for Better Price for Farmers' Products: Lessons and Experiences from Cargills Super market Collection Centres in Sri Lanka
13. Thailand: Sufficiency Economy: Chang Hua-Muu – Royal Initiative Project
14. New Rural Development in Vietnam- 03 years of implementation: Achievements, Difficulties and Challenges
15. Poverty reduction: Experiences from Vietnam

The link Ministry of CIRDAP like Rural Development/Agriculture plays an important role in formulating and designing rural development policies and programmes on rural development and poverty alleviation. It is a fact that the CMCs and the link Institute of CIRDAP have undertaken several successful projects and research studies on agriculture and rural development which are not well known to other CMCs. Similarly in other CMCs especially under the auspices of the contact ministry and link institutions many success stories/model have been developed over the years which need to be disseminate to all CMCs. In this context the EC and GC felt that information on best practices on rural development and poverty alleviation should be captured and shared with all member countries to link up and emulate these best practices in CIRDAP member countries. Accordingly, the following projects have been identified to be implemented as joint collaboration with CLIs:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Pakistan:    | (i) Interest Free Microfinance.   |
|              | (ii) ICT4D  |
|              | (iii) Disaster Risk Management  |
| Thailand:    | Sufficiency Economy: Chang Hua-Muu” – Royal Initiative Project                  |
| Fiji:        | Climate Change/Disaster Risk Management   |
| Indonesia:   | PNPM and Village Empowerment  |
| Philippines: | Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Insurance Project and Agro-enterprise Development |
|              | (i) Insurance of ARBs   |
|              | (ii) DAR-CRS Linkage ARBs to Corporate Supply Chain (ARB – IR)                  |
| Iran:        | International workshop on SFIDA or Rural Management                             |
| Bangladesh:  | Agricultural Insurance  |
| Malaysia:    | (i) Home stay   |
|              | (ii) Rural Transformation Programme (RTP)                                       |

International Conference on “Responsible Business Conduct in Poverty Alleviation and Financial Inclusion through Green Banking and CSR”

CIRDAP as a co-organiser cooperated the Social Responsibility Asia (SR Asia) to organise an International Conference on “Responsible Business Conduct in Poverty Alleviation and Financial Inclusion through Green Banking and CSR” from 29-30 November, 2014 at the Bangladesh Bank Training Academy (BBTA) in Dhaka.



The other partners of the programme included GIZ, Dhaka University, Bangladesh German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BGCCI), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Concern Worldwide, Citycell and Premier Bank. Bangladesh Bank, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Japan Embassy in Bangladesh, and India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IBCCI) also supported the initiative.

Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor, Bangladesh Bank (BB) was the Chief Guest on the occasion and said that BB got engaged early on, from 2008, towards mainstreaming socially responsible business ethos and business conduct in our financial sector with thrusts on socially responsible inclusive and environmentally benign financing, on adoption of energy efficient low carbon internal processes and practices, and on safety and fairness in working conditions. SR engagements in our financial sector have increased manifold since then inclusive financing of agriculture, SMEs and other underserved productive sectors upheld output growth, employment and domestic demand during the global financial crisis and the global growth slowdown in its aftermath. Green financing has enabled rapid progress in solar and biomass based renewable energy generation, in adoption of energy efficient brick making technology, in industrial effluent treatment, and so forth. The progress has been made possible by enthusiastic engagement of all financial intermediaries, supported by enabling measures including a major BB led modernisation of the financial sector IT infrastructure bringing in mobile phone/smart card based cost efficient off branch financial service delivery, and refinance lines against lending to SMEs and green projects.

Adding further on the subject, Mr. Birendra Raturi, International Director, SR Asia and Dr. Mahfuzul Haque, Former Secretary of Bangladesh Government highlighted and explained survey results conducted by SR Asia on conference theme which seeks the critical inputs of Industry on their views and how they can substantiate their affords and actions to improve poverty within Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes and approaches. It is mentioned said that business community and government shall take proactive measures now hereafter to win back the confidence of the global market for the lost trust.

Mr. Hossein Shahbaz shared the skill development process in diversified sector being driven by his CIRDAP in its member countries. He mentioned that concept of development shifted to 'Sustainable Development' as second phase of MDGs is coming up by Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For achieving the sustainable development and integrated development, which CIRDAP is looking and trying for, there are many tools and some of them will be discussed in the conference like CSR, Sustainable Energy, Green Banking, and so on.

In the opening remark, Ms. Sumaya Rashid, Country Director, SR Asia emphasised on the conference theme and its relevance in the context of Bangladesh and how developing country like us is not a different case in the global arena. Bangladesh as such does not fall in the industrialised category; however, expectations from this sector are rising for addressing poverty alleviation in one way or the other.

Responsible business conduct also called for Socially Responsible Financing (SRF) that refers to financing and investing activities of financial intermediaries which address the appropriate social need and change in line with the endogenous features of the region or the country. Socially Responsible Financing is made by considering 'Triple Bottom Line (Profit, Planet and People)'. The conference was attended by around 300 delegates from across sectors however banking sectors participated very actively.

More than 20 experts from different organisations and countries contributed in the conference by making presentations on different themes. Two of the presenters gave presentations from CIRDAP member countries; they are Dr. Somporn Hanpongpanh, Consultant to ADB and Integrated Rural Development (IRD) expert to CIRDAP, and Dr. Algodage Saman Priyashantha, Executive Director, Lanka Jathika Sarvodaya Shramadana Sangamaya (Inc). The government has been urged to take measures to compel all the sectors beyond banks and financial institutions to take part in the initiatives as a CSR.

### **SME Development in Bangladesh: Sharing Iranian Experience on Baking Industry**

A meeting was held on sharing the Iranian Experience on Baking Industry for SME Development in Bangladesh, from the 3-4 February 2014 at the CIRDAP Auditorium, Dhaka, Bangladesh. The primary agenda of the afternoon meeting was to analyse how linkages from Iran could help in improving the economy of Bangladesh.

Mr. Hossein Shahbaz (Director of Pilot Projects and Research a.i. CIRDAP) gave a brief background on MoU with Bangladesh Bank (Central Bank) that had taken place the previous year. He explained how fuel consumption was a daily problem in every household in Bangladesh, and hence Iranian technology could provide a solution where gas could be used more efficiently.

M/sMashhad Baking Industry Co., a manufacturer of bread making machinery from I.R. Iran made a presentation at CIRDAP. The aim of the company is to make machineries that can be both: time and cost-effective, yet modern so that fuel consumption would be reduced. These machines can be functioned with efficient energy usage with relatively less consumption. The participants present at the meeting were from different stakeholder, ranging from banks to private entrepreneurs related to the SME and bakery industry.



*Discussion in progress*

The President of Bangladesh Bread, Biscuits and Confectionery Owners Association, along with other members was present at another meeting. Iranian delegates explained how their modern machines would be for the betterment of Bangladesh that included the quality of machineries, cost-effectiveness, and versatility of the machineries.

There was a bilateral discussion between CIRDAP and Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BWCCI) on 5 May 2014. The meeting commenced with the founding president of BWCCI, Mrs. Selima Ahmad suggesting a business plan with Mashhad Bakery Industry based on requirements of BWCCI members for learning this technology and saving vast amounts of fuel usage.



CIRDAP organised the last meeting on the same day; that took place with the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI). The voice of SMEs serves as the first point of business contact for penetration into new markets and a vibrant platform putting forward facts-based opinions, suggestions and recommendations from home and abroad.

### **Exposure-Cum-Study Visit to Iran by high officials of Government of Bangladesh**

During the 19-25 February 2014, CIRDAP organised an Exposure-cum-Study visit for high officials of Government of Bangladesh (GoB) that included Mr. M.A. Quader Sarkar, Executive Committee (EC-29) Member of CIRDAP and Secretary RDCD, GoB; Mr. A.H.M. Abdullah, Additional Secretary (Development), RDCD; Mr. Mashiur Rahman, Member of Technical Committee (TC-28) of CIRDAP and Director General, Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD); Dr. M. A. Matin, Director General, Rural Development Academy (RDA).

This visit was initiated by CIRDAP to share some development projects and good practices of Iran as one of the CMCs. There was also a meeting with the high officials of Organisation of Jihad-e-Agriculture, Khorasan Razavi Province, led by Deputy of the President.

Secretary RDCD, GoB exchange views on Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation in Bangladesh. GoB Bangladesh has also initiated a national programme namely “*Ekte Bari Ekte Khamar*” meaning “One House One Farm”. The government facilitates and helps one village family to operate a farm for producing crops/fish/chicken/milk/meat and other products or services, and provides loans and implements skills development programmes, as well.

The team also visited the national fair on Agriculture Machinery and Irrigation Equipment Exhibition in Mashhad city. There were many mutual discussions between Bangladeshi delegates and industrialists on the possibilities of transferring some technologies to Bangladesh. It was noticed that utilising Iran’s technology could resolve at least a portion of the problem of gas shortages prevailing in Bangladesh.



*Meeting at Agriculture and Natural Resource Engineering Organisation*

There was also a meeting with deputy and officials of Agriculture and Natural Resource Engineering Organisation. The activities of the organisation and the handling of extension works by newly educated young experts in the village areas on agriculture and natural resources management were discussed.

The team also attended a meeting with International Cooperation Department of Imam Reza Foundation, one of the biggest NGOs in Iran that has founding many Development and Poverty Alleviation projects in Iran and abroad.



## International Seminar on Sustainable SME Development in Bangladesh

CIRDAP in association with Bangladesh Bank, Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM), MIDAS (UK) in a joint effort organised an International Seminar the first of its kind in Bangladesh on “Sustainable SME Development in Bangladesh” on 30 April 2014 in the CIRDAP International Conference Centre (CICC). The main purpose of the seminar was to make recommendations for a sustainable SME Sector in Bangladesh by formulating long term and effective rules and regulations keeping in view the global perspectives.



*Seminar in progress*

Dr. Atiur Rahman, Hon'ble Governor of Bangladesh Bank was present as the Chief Guest. Md. Abul Quasem, Deputy Governor, Bangladesh Bank was present as the Special Guest. Mr. George Abraham, Director, MIDAS (U.K) chaired the programme.

Chief Guest Governor Dr. Atiur Rahman stressed on such types of international joint initiatives and taking forward-looking initiatives to ensure sustainable SME development. The Governor thanked the speakers and chair for taking the trouble to come to Bangladesh and render valuable contribution for the interest of the SMEs of Bangladesh. A large number of Managing Director/CEO of Banks, Non-Bank Financial Institutions and Representatives from SME Associations, Women Organisations, Chambers and SME related various national and International Organisations participated in the seminar. There were open discussions after both the sessions. The participants of the seminar asked various questions and made several valuable recommendations. After thorough discussions by the discussants and participants, a number of recommendations were made, on which a seminar paper will be published and intimated to policy makers and regulators for implementation of the recommendations.

### **Recommendations:**

- Women entrepreneurs are facing hurdles to get access to the SMEs financing due to lack of knowhow and procedural problems. SME sector players such as SME Foundation, Women chamber of Commerce and others should play pro-active role for promoting women entrepreneurs.
- There should be effective collaboration between SME sectors and higher education institutions in the field of research HR planning and technology adoption.
- Refinancing is an important issue for the advancement of the SME sector in Bangladesh which needs to be strengthened. Compliance, regulations etc. should be relaxed or liberalised in order to boost up the sector.

## Building Bridges with Stakeholders

### Special Networking Meeting on SME held at CIRDAP

Ms. Emily Scott, Acting Country Director of CARE Bangladesh and Mr. Christoph Schroer, Senior Advisor, Financial System Development, GIZ and their team were present in the meeting. Mr. Md. Abul Basar, Deputy General Manager of BB, other related officials of BB, Head of SME of banks and NBFIs, Officials of CIRDAP and a good number of representatives from different developing and donor organisations like GIZ, Care BD, SR Asia, Spreeha, Bangladesh Agro Processing Association (BAPA), who are working for the development of SME sector of Bangladesh, were also present in the meeting. Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, CIRDAP delivered welcome address on behalf of CIRDAP and gave some background regarding the meeting while mentioning the other experiences regarding creating Network Group among different stakeholders on specific subject. Dr. Cecep Effendi, Chair of the meeting in his concluding remarks called for intensive initiatives, joint efforts and ensured all sorts of cooperation from CIRDAP.

After thorough discussion, the following recommendations were taken unanimously.

- Opening of a Facebook group on "SME Network Group" through which communication will continue.
- Continuous communication with email, mobile will continue.
- Each organisation will intimate all representatives present about their new ideas and any programme they are thinking and going to organise.
- Efforts will be taken to arrange different programmes jointly and unitedly.
- Other SME dedicated organisations will be included in future meetings. All will be invited to use newly created facebook group.
- All sorts of information will be uploaded in the facebook group to ensure smooth running of the group.
- Networking meeting will be arranged in each quarter.
- Next meeting will be held at IDLC, Head Office. IDLC and SR Asia will give presentation in the next meeting. Thus, future meetings will be held in other offices. In each meeting, two organisations will make presentation.
- Mr Bidhan Chandra Shaha, AD, BB will work as Member Secretary. He will take advice and assistance from Mr. Md. Abul Basar, DGM, BB, Mr. Zahid Ibne Hye, head of SME, IDLC, Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director CIRDAP, Mr. Rawshan Zadeed, head of SME, Trust Bank Ltd and any other representative. Mr. Choudhury, SME Faculty Consultant will also supervise and monitor the activities.

### Special Meeting on Incubation Committee

A meeting of the Incubation Committee was held on 14 May 2014 to discuss the progress of its activities. Mr. Sukamal Sinha Choudhury, SME Faculty Consultant, BIBM and Bangladesh Bank briefed about the progress of the activities. Dr Vasanthi, Director ICD, CIRDAP briefed about the alternative institute for conducting feasibility study because NSIC requested 700,000 Indian Rupees (14,000\$). She informed that Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT) team, which visited CIRDAP, had offered to do the feasibility study provided the cost of travel, boarding, lodging of the team was taken care.



*Special Meeting on Incubation Committee*



It was informed in the meeting that in order to seek financial assistance from donor or government agencies to install the incubation centre, there should be a feasibility study. Mr. Sukamal, as coordinator of the Incubation Committee has already communicated with NSIC of India to conduct the feasibility study for which a substantial amount is required. If the feasibility study is done, financial assistance can be sought from the Government of India through the Indian High Commission in Bangladesh. Director General, CIRDAP informed that CIRDAP is ready to provide logistic support such as accommodation, food etc. to any overseas organisation interested to conduct the feasibility study. He requested Mr. Sukamal to communicate NSIC and get their final decision. If NSIC is unable to support, we should look for alternative. He also emphasised to strengthen our linkage to other institutions in Bangladesh (e.g. Daffodil University) to better collaboration with them, as representative of Daffodil University were present. They showed they keen interest to provide the place for setting up the incubation system.

### **Local Governance Initiative and Network (LOGIN Asia) Meet at CIRDAP**



*Local Governance Network Meeting*

The Second meeting of the LOGIN Bangladesh was organised on 15 May at CIRDAP in which twenty representatives from various institutions participated. The meeting was started with a welcome address given by Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director Research a.i., which followed by discussion on 7 agendas such as: (i) discussion on the minutes of the last meeting; (ii) Local Governance Stakeholder Analysis for 2014; (iii) Criteria selection for LOGIN Membership; (iv) Selection of Candidates for LOGIN 2014 Learning Offers; (v) Learning Offer on Demand Basis; (vi) LOGIN Management Event; and (vii) LOGIN Envisioning 2017. It was decided that Project, which has long-term vision, might be considered as associated member. Union Parishad (UP) Helpline and Media Professional may also be member of LOGIN.

### **Meeting with International Finance Corporation (IFC) Regional SME Venture Coordinator**

A special meeting with Regional SME Venture Coordinator, Mr. Arsalan Alfred was held at CIRDAP on 20th May 2014 on possible collaboration with “SME networking” in Bangladesh. The meeting was coordinated by Mr. H. Shahbaz, Director Research, CIRDAP and Mr. Sukamal Sinha Choudhury, SME Faculty Consultant, BIBM and Bangladesh Bank (BB), Mr. Bidhan Chandra Shaha of BB and Mr. Shafiqur Rahman of CIRDAP was present.

The IFC representative while briefing about the activities of IFC informed that there is ample scope for promotion of SME in the region especially engagement of Youth in the SME sector to provide them employment. He mentioned that IFC is currently involved in food security issues including reduction of post harvest losses. After thorough discussion, the following recommendations were made to initiate collaboration with CIRDAP and Bangladesh Bank.

A One-day Workshop will be organised collaboratively by CIRDAP, BB and IFC where SME holders will be invited to interact with IFC and IFC will deliver a presentation. IFC granted SME, Bangladesh would be invited to share their experiences in the workshop. The Workshop may be organised by June.

CIRDAP will prepare a concept note to initiate “Agri-business Incubation Centre” in Bangladesh following the experience of IFC in Nepal and will be submitted to IFC.



IFC has gathered many field level experiences in Bangladesh, which may be useful for others for effective promotion of SME. Therefore, a round table discussion will be organised by end-August jointly by IFC/CIRDAP/BB/BIBM to share the experiences.

CIRDAP is going to organise a Regional Seminar on “SME Development in Afghanistan: Sharing Regional Experiences” in Afghanistan in August 2014 where IFC may be invited to participate to share its experiences on Supporting and Financing SME.

#### **Meeting with Credit Rating Agency of Bangladesh Ltd (CRAB).**

Mr. Tajul Islam, Senior Vice President of CRAB visited CIRDAP and met with Director Research a.i. on 21 May 2014 to discuss on possible collaborative issues with CIRDAP in connection with SME development in Bangladesh. Several issues were discussed which could be summarised as follows:

- SME Rating and SME Rating Fund Concept
- Concept dissemination through CIRDAP-IFC Seminar
- Utilisation of CIRDAP IT Platform and Facilities for Training
- Training on Risk Management for SME entrepreneurs
- Concept of setting up SME Exchange, SME Information Exchange, Credit Guarantee Fund (CGF), Mutual Guarantee Fund (MGF), Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS), Innovative Cluster Funding Technique, Benchmarking Services etc could be discussed through SME Networking Platform.

These issues could be explored further in the SME sector in Bangladesh with the assistance of CRAB.

#### **LOGIN Consultant Visits CIRDAP**

Dr. Cherian Joseph, Consultant, Institutional Development and Learning, Local Governance Initiative and Network (LOGIN) visited CIRDAP on 10 June 2014 to discuss matters related to LOGIN initiatives in the region. He discussed about the forthcoming visit of the Nepal team in Bangladesh, administrative matters related to Horizontal Learning Programme (HLP) peer-to-peer good practices. He briefed about the progress of networking. The briefing was participated among others by Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Officer-in-Charge, Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director Training and ICD, CIRDAP and Dr. Vasanthi opined that since many of the CIRDAP Member countries are also members of the LOGIN, both the organisations should collaborate jointly to increase coverage. She also emphasised that additional participants may be co-opted with financial support from LOGIN.



*LOGIN Consultant at CIRDAP*

#### **CIRDAP and UNDP collaborative meeting held**

Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General CIRDAP along with Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director Pilot Projects/Research a.i. and Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director ICD/Training a.i. visited Local Governance Cluster of UNDP, Dhaka Office on 2nd June 2014 to be acquainted and begin preliminary discussions and exchange ideas to find the areas of possible collaboration. Ms. Shaila Khan, Assistant Country Director, Local briefed on UNDP's activities in Bangladesh with special focus on local governance. Regarding possible collaboration, Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP referred and briefed on holding CIRDAP-NIRD joint up-coming workshop programme in July 2014 with participants from different Local Government Training Institutes in CIRDAP Member Countries



*A snapshot of the Meeting at UNDP, Dhaka office*

(CMCs) in collaboration with Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), India. In response, Ms. Shaila Khan, Assistant Country Representative, UNDP, Dhaka expressed her willingness to know about the outcomes of the programme, which may be used in organising the same kind of event as learning process in Bangladesh from best practices. Ms. Shaila Khan informed the visiting delegates about the ‘friendly evaluation’ done by the third party development partners but not by the donors or professional consulting firm. In this connection Mr. Hossein

Shahbaz, Director, PPD/Research a.i. expressed the willingness of CIRDAP’s involvement, which needs to be further discussed and followed-up, and it was accepted on principle by Ms. Shala. Dr. Cecep Effendi proposed collaboration on the exchange programmes of Local Government Institutions by the Officers/Students and Faculty members.

#### **JICA and Kyoto University Officials meet CIRDAP Officials**

A JICA team comprising of Mr. Komabashiri, Ms Masayo Nishizawa, Ms Mariko Adachi (Executive Admin officer, Kyoto University) and Ms Miciyo Hashiguch (Project Professor, Kyoto University) on 21 July at CIRDAP. The purpose of the visit was to discuss with CIRDAP regarding deployment of volunteers of Kyoto University in CIRDAP. It was decided that an orientation of the forthcoming volunteers might be organised at CIRDAP on 13 August 2014.

#### **Exposure Visit of Afghan Delegates to CIRDAP and Bangladesh on SME**

CIRDAP arranged a visit for three delegates from Afghanistan headed by Mr. Ghulam Haider, Executive Director, Afghanistan Institute of Rural Development (AIRD) and member of Technical Committee to Bangladesh and CIRDAP Has during 24-27 June 2014. The other members of the delegation were Mr. Mohammed Omar Anwarzay, National Research Coordinator, AIRD and Mr. Baryalai Haqmal, AREDP SME Operation Officer, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD). During their visit in Bangladesh, they had several successful meetings with Secretary, Rural Development Division of the Government of Bangladesh, Post Harvest Technology Division of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Gazipur, SME Foundation Bangladesh, SME Department, Bangladesh Bank and Daffodil International University. They had detailed discussions on matters related with CIRDAP and AIRD at CIRDAP HQs.



*Afghan Delegates at CIRDAP*





### **ANGOC and ILC representatives met with CIRDAP Officials**

CIRDAP officials headed Mr. H. Shahbaz met with Mr. Nathaniel Don E. Marquez, Executive Director, AsianNGO Coalition (ANGOC) and Mr. Erpan Faryadi, Regional Facilitator of the International Land Coalition (ILC Asia) on 15th August 2014 to discuss issues on mutual interest. The meeting took place in the office of Association of Land Reforms and Development (ALRD) where Mr. Shamsul Huda, executive Director of ALRD and Ms. Rowshan Jahan Moni, Deputy Director, among others were present. During the discussion, the following issues were identified for possible collaboration:

- Participation of CIRDAP in the Asia Land Forum that ILC will organise in October in India
- CIRDAP, ANGOC and ALRD may come forward for a joint publication on the land studies already undertaken or even featuring CSO studies on land in CIRDAP's Journal
- CIRDAP may like to pursue with SAARC to introduce ALRD to SAARC Agricultural Programme
- CIRDAP invited ANGOC, ALRD and ILC to participate in CIRDAP's capacity building events
- Emphasised to organise policy dialogues on land and rural development jointly or participation in events organised separately.

### **Daffodil University team meet Director General, CIRDAP**

A team of experts of the Food Engineering Department of Daffodil International University (DIU) met with Director General CIRDAP on 19 August at to chalk out possible collaboration on issues like food security of the rural poor in CIRDAP Member Countries. Director General, CIRDAP in his remarks expressed his concern about the enormous fruits and vegetables growing in Bangladesh but a significant portion of it are wasting due to lack of processing facilities. He mentioned that the growers are deprived of the proper value of their product. Referring to the product "Cheaps" from the betel leaf by Indonesian farmer, he mentioned that simple technology could make their product valuable if the product can be brought under value chain. He urged that Food Engineering Department of DIU could collaborate with CIRDAP to highlight the examples of CIRDAP Member Countries. CIRDAP can assist them to identify relevant organisations like incubation of Bogor University to join hands with DIU. DIU may submit a proposal to CIRDAP identifying one or two items to be promoted in Bangladesh convenient to DIU. He also mentioned that DIU could assist CIRDAP to conduct a feasibility study to set up incubation centre in Bangladesh.

The following decisions have been made to furthering the collaboration with DIU:

- An International workshop may be organised jointly in January 2015 where appropriate institutions/ organisations will be invited to participate.
- CIRDAP will assist to the international participants providing airfare as per as practicable. DIU may like to provide to local hospitality.
- Food and Engineering Department of DIU may be involved in the feasibility study for setting up of the proposed incubation Centre in Bangladesh

### **Incubation Committee Meeting**

The Incubation Committee met on 14 August in the Chamber of the President of the Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh (IDEB) in Kakrail to discuss the progress. Representatives of the Basic Bank, Bangladesh Bank, CIRDAP attended the meeting. It was informed in the meeting that the Government of India has agreed to fund the feasibility study of the proposed incubation centre in Bangladesh. The IDEB president welcomed the decision and agreed to sponsor the centre in the IDEB campus. Director Research who represented CIRDAP in the meeting proposed that the proposed incubation centre should not be in one place. It should be installed in component basis in different institutes based on their expertise.

## Dr. Akhter Hameed Khan's Centennial Birth Anniversary Observed in Befitting Manner

Dr. Akhter Hameed Khan is well known in Asia and a large part of the wider world for his distinguished leadership to empowering the disadvantaged rural people in the region. He led the foundation of the Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development of which he was the Founder Director and the Rural Development Experiment in Comilla, Bangladesh.

CIRDAP and a few former colleagues and admirer jointly celebrated Dr. Khan's Birth Centenary by organising a Seminar on his works and memories on 12 September 2014 (Friday) at CIRDAP International Conference Centre (CICC), Dhaka. The Seminar was attended by eminent scholars and academicians, stakeholders, followers, representatives Government, NGO high officials, diplomats and other organisations. Mr. Khandakar Asaduzzaman, MP, was the Chief Guest and Mr. Mokamel Haque, former Secretary of GoB, Mr. M.A. Kadir, Secretary of Rural Development Division of the GoB and Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP were the Special Guests. Syed Marghub Murshed, former Secretary, Government of Bangladesh chaired the session. Dr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman, Rural Support Programmes Network, Islamabad, Pakistan could not present due to some unavoidable circumstances. However, he expressed solidarity with the programme by sending a message. A book titled AKHTER HAMEED KHAN: A TRIBUTE was released on the occasion published by CIRDAP in association with his former colleagues. To mark the day, photographs of memorable events was also displayed.



Seminar (Top) and Photo Exhibition (Bottom) on Akhter Hameed Khan at CICC, CIRDAP





### **SR-Asia Regional Manager Visits CIRDAP**

SR-Asia Regional Manager visited CIRDAP and discussed about the up-coming event in November 2014. CIRDAP signed an agreement with SR-Asia Bangladesh Chapter to organise a two-day workshop in Bangladesh 29-30 November 2014 on “INTCON-2014 on Responsible Business Conduct”. The meeting emphasises on further collaboration in conducting joint International Workshop. SR-Asia agreed to provide resource persons in CIRDAP programme, if required.

### **Concern Universal Country Director Visits CIRDAP**

Mr. Cornelis De Wolf, Country Director of the Concern Universal paid a visit to CIRDAP on 28 August 2014 and met CIRDAP Officials. Concern Universal is an international development organisation tackling poverty from the grassroots. It supports a wide range of projects that serve to improve the lives of people living in some of the world's poorest communities. In Bangladesh they have several programmes like establishing safe water points and training village water user associations to maintain and manage these, adult literacy and basic education training with children and adolescents, supporting children at risk and promoting child rights, emergency relief and rehabilitation of disaster affected in the coastal areas etc. After discussion, it was expressed hope that both CIRDAP and Concern Universal may find some areas such as monitoring and evaluating of the programme activities of Concern Universal and sharing best practices could be explored.

### **Orientation of the Volunteers of Kyoto University, Japan held at CIRDAP**

Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director Pilot Projects/Research a.i. welcomed the, visiting team at CIRDAP and recalled the long association with Japan and specially with JICA since inception of this regional, inter-governmental organisation since 1979. In addition, he thanked Professor Yoshihiro Kaida, former IRD Expert CIRDAP and senior faculty member (retired) from Kyoto University as he made the initial contact to facilitate the networking between CIRDAP and visiting team. Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, PPD/Research a.i. gave his presentation entitled, ‘A Brief Presentation on CIRDAP’ followed by a lively question and answer session

### **Chairman of Rural Savings Bank called on Director General, CIRDAP**

Dr. Mihir Kanti Mazumder, former Secretary, Government of Bangladesh and newly appointed Chairmen, Board of Directors of the recently established Palli Sanchaya Bank met Director General



*Chairman, Board of Directors of Palli Sanchaya Bank  
with Director General CIRDAP*

CIRDAP and briefed him about the vision, mission of the Palli Sanchaya Bank. In his briefing, Dr. Mihir mentioned that the Government of Bangladesh is going to set up a new bank called Palli Sanchaya Bank (Rural Savings Banks to give ‘One House, One Farm’ project an institutional form, with the hope, will be instrumental in alleviating poverty.

Dr. Mihir while sharing the history of microcredit evolution in Bangladesh mentioned that, over the years, the microcredit model extended its network

quickly throughout the country because there was no better model for micro lending to support the poor people. The only way open before them was traditional *Mohajoni Loan* which involved more risks and costs than microcredit. Therefore, the number of microcredit borrowers and the amount of microcredit are on the rise. However, despite its wide coverage, the microcredit has lost its myth that it can effectively contribute to eradicate poverty. Microcredit has played an important role in improving the livelihood and living standard of the poor but it could not contribute to graduate the poor from poverty line as per expectation. Thus, criticism has been surfaced that microcredit can manage poverty but it cannot eradicate poverty effectively. High rate of interest or service charge, weekly collection of microcredit in instalments, low interest given on small savings of the poor people, less investment in the farm sector and oversaturation in non-farm sector and the like have faded the inherent power of microcredit to eradicate poverty effectively. In the weekly instalment of microcredit, poor people cannot invest in seasonal agriculture or seasonal business because they need daily or weekly cash flow or income. They invest in groceries and other forms of businesses, which generate daily cash flow and income. Therefore, millions of borrowers invest in similar businesses and face competition among them. This investment and competition force them to earn less and work more. On the other hand, agriculture, fishery, poultry, livestock rearing and other farm oriented investment sectors, which need seasonal investments, find less intervention at the micro level. The farm sector remains unsaturated whereas the grocery business sector and other microcredit based non-farm sectors face oversaturation and unnecessary competition. In this backdrop, Government has initiated the Palli Sanchaya Bank as an attractive and effective model of micro savings programme alongside microcredit to pull out the poor people above the poverty line. It will also ensure human resource development activities, cooperative marketing to ensure fair price and other promotional activities related to health, nutrition, education, sanitation and participation in local level planning and decision making as potentials to form capital, increase the self-esteem of poor people, improve livelihood and effectively contribute towards bringing them above the poverty line.

The present Government has started the project 'One House, One Farm' during its tenure 1996-01 which again revived during 2009. A Tk 13.32 billion fund was created for more than one million families from 17,300 villages across Bangladesh. The 'Palli Sanchay Bank' can have an authorised capital of Tk 10 billion along with a paid-up capital of Tk 2 billion. Fifty-one percent of the paid-up capital will be provided by the government and the rest by the cooperative societies formed under the 'One House, One Farm' project.

Director General showed interest to know more about the progress of project. He mentioned that Indonesia has also similar kind of banking system with enormous capital assistance from the Government but its utilisation is very limited. Therefore, we exchange ideas, lessons from the experiences of the Bangladesh project. Dr. Mihir Kanti also expressed his desire to gain experiences from the CIRDAP Member Countries on small-scale technology that Ekti Bari Ekti Khamar beneficiaries benefited.

#### **Daffodil University and CIRDAP Collaboration on SME Development in Bangladesh**

Professor Dr. Ahmed Ismail Mustafa, Dean, Department of Nutrition and Food Engineering, Daffodil International University (DIU) had a meeting with Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General of CIRDAP on 13 October, 2014 at latter's office to chalk out possible collaboration on issues like food security of the rural poor in CIRDAP Member Countries. Director General, CIRDAP in his remarks expressed his concern about the enormous fruits and vegetables growing in Bangladesh but a significant portion of them are wasting due to lack of processing facilities. He mentioned that the growers are depriving of



the proper value of their product. Referring to the product 'Chips' from the betel leaf by Indonesian farmer, he said that simple technology can make their product valuable if the product can be brought under value chain. He urged that Food Engineering Department of DIU could collaborate with CIRDAP to display the examples of CIRDAP Member Countries. CIRDAP can assist them to identify relevant organisations like incubation of Bogor University to join hands with DIU. Professor Mustafa appreciated the idea and expressed his hope to visit project site in Indonesia by December 2014.

#### Discussion Meeting with Youth Forum, Bangladesh



*A snapshot of the discussion*

Ms. Tanzina Naushin, Chief Executive of National Youth Forum of Bangladesh along with few members of the forum consisting BRAC University Islamic University Bangladesh and ASA University presented the Forum activities at CIRDAP on 01 October 2014. Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP; Dr. Hussein Shahbaz, Director Pilot Projects and Director Research and other staff members were present in the presentation. Ms. Naushin mentioned YFB was formed in 2000 by a group of

enthusiastic young people who are prominent in their own profession. This group of young leaders has been really concerned and worried of the issues that directly affect the well-being of youth community in Bangladesh. Having gained first-hand experience in youth issues, they came forward with commitment to contribute to the well being of the young people and in order to go for concrete action they formed the Forum.

Providing supports to youth organisations via funding, training, endorsement, mission and other recourses. Promoting circulation of information and expertise, interaction, networking among youth organisations, creating platform for cross-fertilisations of ideas, and sharing of resources working towards positive and sustainable social change with, and for the benefit of young people in Bangladesh

#### Seminar on SME Development: Role of an Effective SME Association

The Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), Bangladesh Bank, Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM), Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), Institute of Diploma Engineers of Bangladesh (IDEB), Rural Development Academy (RDA) Bogra, Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BWCCI), BASIC Bank Limited and IDLC Finance Limited have organised a day-long seminar on "SME Development: Role of an Effective SME Association" on November 22, 2014 at IDEB, Kakrail, Dhaka.

Mr. Rajive Chawla, Chairman, IamSME of India delivered keynote speech in the seminar. Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor, Bangladesh Bank was present as Chief Guest and Kazi Akram Uddin Ahmed, President; FBCCI was present as Special Guest. The Seminar was chaired by Mr. AKMA Hamid, President, IDEB.

The Chief Guest in his speech mentioned that Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are treated worldwide as the engine of growth, drivers of innovations. MSMEs play a significant role in driving economic growth and generating employment. The rate of business creation in any jurisdiction indicates the rate of innovation and thereby indicates the rate of growth. Private sector is the main driver of growth in the today's world and majority of the private enterprises are



*DG, CIRDAP addressing the audience in the seminar*

MSMEs. In our country, in fact 99 per cent of the private sector enterprises are MSMEs. MSMEs contribute to GDP up to 30 per cent. MSMEs are providing 25 per cent employment of total labour force while 80 per cent of industrial jobs come from MSMEs. MSMEs are widely distributed all over the country, which means MSMEs play a major role in bridging the urban-rural income gap and contributing towards inclusive growth. In true sense, inclusive growth can only be achieved through a vibrant SME sector in a country like Bangladesh.

He emphasised that successful MSMEs and SMEs entrepreneurs will help Bangladesh emerging as a successful economy in the world. Describing SMEs and MSMEs as 'key driving forces' for economic development of Bangladesh, the central bank governor said "Bangladesh will set an example by emerging as a successful economy with the initiatives of our successful SMEs and MSMEs."

Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP also spoke in the seminar as discussant and emphasised that CIRDAP, IDEB, DCCI and other concerned stakeholders may come forward to establish and operationalise the 'Incubator' centre on urgent basis for effective entrepreneurship development.

Sandeep Chakravorty, Deputy High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh also spoke in the occasion. He supported the idea of exchanging and transferring the SME technologies between two countries. A 10-member delegation team of IamSME, India led by Rajive Chawla, Chairman, IamSME took part in the seminar. Three Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) were signed during the seminar. SME entrepreneurs, women entrepreneurs, members of different associations and chambers attended the seminar.

#### **Seminar at CIRDAP on Youth in Agriculture and Volunteerism in Bangladesh**

CIRDAP and Bangladesh Youth Forum (BYF) jointly organised a seminar on "Youth in Agriculture and Volunteerism in Bangladesh" on 15 December 2015 at CIRDAP International Conference Centre with the gracious presence of Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Honourable Speaker of the Bangladesh Parliament. Among the others, Mr. Arif Khan Joy, Deputy Minister for Youth and Sports, Mr. Brian Allemekinders, Canadian High Commissioner (In charge), Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP, Mr. Leo Kenny, UNAIDS Country Director, Dr. Iftekharuzzaman, Executive Director of TIB, Eminent Lawyer Barrister Sara Hossain, Dr. Qazi Khalikuzzaman Ahmed, Chairman of PKSf, Mr. Abdul Karim, Managing Director of PKSf, Mrs. Rasheda K. Chowdhury, Former Education Adviser, Dr. Shahid Akhter Hossain, Pro-VC of Dhaka University, Mr. M.A. Matin, DG of RDA, Mr.



Hossein Shahbaz, Director of PPD, CIRDAP, Mr. Peter Yates, Programme Officer of Asia Foundation, Mr. Abdul Awal Mintoo, Former FBCCI President, Mr. Sabih Uddin, Former Forest and Environment Secretary, Dr. Mokarram Hossan, Pro-VC of Open University, Dr. Mahbuba Nasreen, Director of



*Seminar on "Youth in Agriculture and Volunteerism in Bangladesh" on 15 December, 2015 at CIRDAP*

Disaster Management Institute and Tania Haque, UNV Programme Officer participated in the seminar.

The speakers emphasised that concerted effort is needed to encourage rural youth to engage in agriculture. Currently around the world, rapid urbanisation has led to decline in rural populations and for the first time ever the majority of the world's population lives in a city. The UN World Health Organisation predicts that "by 2030, 6 out of every 10 people will live in a city, and by 2050, this proportion will increase to 7 out of 10 people". With this predicted

concentration of the global population in urban areas, it is easier to understand why the number of young farmers is in decline.

The Speaker of the Bangladesh Parliament said the government is working for building the country's youth as citizens of global village so that they would be able to compete with the current world of globalisation. She said the young society of the country always play a vital role in the advancement of the nation. "Our youth society always turns their dream into reality," she added.


Two parliamentary sessions and four strategic sessions were attended by youths from 65 Districts and 50 universities of the country and prepared a youth action plan that the forum will implement in the next year.

### Visiting Fellows to CIRDAP

**Dr. Yoshihiro Kaida**, Professor Emeritus of Kyoto University (Japan) and the former IRD Expert at CIRDAP joined the organisation on the 25th of January 2014, for the duration of two months as a fellow to assist CIRDAP reorganise the web-page of Best Practices in CIRDAP member Countries.

Dr. Kaida was associated with the university's Centre for Southeast Asian Studies from 1967-2003, serving in various capacities. Starting his career as an irrigation specialist, Dr. Kaida entered the arena of Southeast Asian studies in the late 1960s and pursued Village Studies in Thailand shortly thereafter. Subsequently, since 1985 he has led a team study of rural development in Bangladesh, collaborating with a multi-disciplinary group of scholars from both Bangladesh and Japan, which yielded a PRDP-Link Model. He had stayed in Bangladesh from 2003 to 2007 as a JICA expert to operationalise the model, which is now being replicated by BRDB in 200 unions in the all 64 districts of Bangladesh. As the IRD Expert of CIRDAP from 2002-13, he has presented a number of professional papers at the CIRDAP Technical Committee every year, and was also the convener of the CIRDAP Evaluation Committee in 2009.

**Mr. Felix Anderl**, a student of International Relations from Bremen University, Germany, came to CIRDAP on 28th of January 2014, for the duration of one month as an Intern. The main purpose on his internship at CIRDAP was to compile field research for his MA thesis on concepts of development



and their variations in the CIRDAP Member Countries. During his stay at CIRDAP he had also contributed to compiling the basic information on human development indicators and articles of CIRDAP Rural Development Journal (APJORD).

**Ms. Shruti Lahiri**, IGNOU, India has completed her honours in Sociology, from Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Kolkata. Shruti has experience on water, health and hygiene facilities of urban slums while working for a brief time with the NGO: Forum for Public Health, in 2011.

Shruti joined as an Intern in the Research Division, CIRDAP from 15th January, 2014 and continued her internship for six months. The main purpose of her internship is to accumulate practical knowledge on CIRDAP activities, particularly research methodology and its application in field levels. The Internship also includes various exposure visits to gain further understanding about development in rural areas.



## ***Pilot Projects***

- Reduction of Post Harvest Losses in Fruit and Vegetables Supply Chains
- Value Chain and Marketing of Agriculture Products
- Peer to Peer learning in Horizontal Learning Process
- Networking and collaboration with CMCs
- Community level best practices on RD and PA
- Documentations of Programme Activities

### **Focus Areas**

- Food Security
- Community Development
- Networking and Collaboration with CMCs
- Strengthening relationship with development partners
- Agri-marketing
- Inclusion of Disabled





As a follow-up of the Evaluation of CIRDAP Projects in 1995, the Action Research Division (ARD) was renamed as Pilot Project Division (PPD). The pilot projects are designed to meet the felt-needs of the community by undertaking innovative experimental projects and replicating them over wider regions. Promotion of participation of poor rural community to mitigate their own problems and ensure their socio-economic advancement is the overriding objective of designing and implementing the pilot projects in CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs). They serve two objectives. One is to generate field level knowledge and the other is for interventions by creating a network from the development partners from GOs, INGOs and Private sector which consisted of policy makers, academics, subject matter specialists and practitioners would lead to mitigating the sufferings of the given community. Participatory philosophy remains the basic concept of implementation mechanism of action research/pilot projects of CIRDAP. The Centre has done a basic work in evolving the Community Information and Planning System (CIPS), a pioneering methodology for rural and community development and CIRDAP Approach to Rural development (CARD).

The major project activities conducted during 2014 are as follows:

### **International Workshop on “Reduction of Post Harvest Losses in Fruit and Vegetables Supply Chains”**

The CIRDAP-HARTI Collaborative International Workshop on ‘Reduction of Post-Harvest Losses in Fruits and Vegetables Supply Chain’ was held on 17– 24 March 2014 at Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI), Colombo, Sri Lanka. This workshop was formally inaugurated by the Chief Guest honourable Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena on 17 March 2014. The inauguration was graced by lighting the oil lamp by the Hon. Chief Guest, Mr. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena, Mr. R M D B Meegasmulla, Secretary, Agriculture, Director HARTI, DG, CIRDAP and other foreign resource persons and local selected dignitaries. There were approximately 50 participants comprising of policy makers, academics, agriculture scientists, experts from private sectors/service providers and practitioners, officer under Ministry of Agriculture in Sri Lanka., FAO Country representative in Colombo.

Welcome address was made by Mr. E.M. Abhayaratne, Director, HARTI. honourable Chief Guest, Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena delivered the key note address and briefed various activities taken by Ministry of Agriculture, Sri Lanka addressing the workshop theme. In addition, Hon. Minister emphasised on maintenance of quality of standards of fruits as well as vegetables during post harvest time. Hon. Minister wished the success of the workshop as an achievement of the decision taken by the CIRDAP Technical Committee-27 held in Sri Lanka. Mr. R M D B Meegasmulla, Secretary, Agriculture made the Inauguration address. The Ministry of Agriculture, Sri Lanka always takes forefront for the same and encourages all Institutes under the purview of the



*Inaugural Speech by Hon. Chief Guest*



*Business Session*



Ministry. The CIRDAP and the HARTI attempts as he expected to fulfil this requirement largely through this Workshop. Hence, he highly appreciated this effort and bestowed his fullest support towards this International workshop. The brief of the workshop was delivered by Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP where he informed the genesis comprising of background and objective of the workshop. The objective of the workshop as DG, CIRDAP explained that workshop programme was to provide an opportunity to the participating CIRDAP member countries to share their experiences and 'best practices' on post harvest loss prevention strategies, methods and actions in fruits and vegetables. It was aimed to deliver consumers fresh, safe, and nutritious fruits and vegetables in the form of their preferences. The themes covered by the workshop were: a) Transportation and Handling b) Marketing and Value Chain c) Agro Processing. DG, CIRDAP congratulated for being enthusiastic and taking the lead role in organising this noteworthy International workshop. Also, thank all distinguished guests and participants, resource persons to make the workshop a success.

Apart from expert's keynote presentations from Sri Lanka, there were presentations of Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh, India and Iran there were open discussions and suggestions/recommendations among the distinguished participants. The duration of the workshop were four days which includes two days class room and two days field visits in line with workshop title. Mrs. C P Hathurusinghe, Head of Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division, HARTI, Sri Lanka delivered the vote of thanks.

The six papers were presented at this international workshop were: a) Success Stories on Agribusiness of Small Farmers and Rural Poor in Thailand by Dr. Somporn Hanpongpanth, market specialist and CIRDAP IRD Expert from Thailand, b) Improving the fruit value chain to minimise postharvest losses and enhance market access by Dr. Yakob Ahmad, CEO TFNet, Malaysia c) Reducing postharvest losses of fresh red chilli during transportation and temporary storage in Indonesia through improved packaging by Dr. Y. Aries Purwanto from the Centre for Tropical Horticulture Studies, Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia, d) Facilitating Inclusive and Sustainable Market System through Value Chain in Bangladesh: Good Practices and Challenges by Mr. Md. Gias Uddin Talukder, Project Coordinator for Helvetas, Swiss Intercooperation, Bangladesh. e) Hermetic Storage Technology and its Applications - Post Harvest Solutions – Grainpro INC. "Grain Storage: A Green solution by Mr. Murshed Salam, Allied Agro Industries and f) Integrated Plan on Reduction of PHL of Iran by Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, Pilot Project Division from CIRDAP, who represented Iran.

Also, there were four paper presentations from host country of Sri Lanka as follows: i) Postharvest Loss Reduction with special emphasis to handling and Transport by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. D B T Wijeratne, ii) Postharvest handling of fruits and vegetables in Sri Lanka: Country case study by Dr. K. H. Sarananda He wage, Head of Food Research Unit, Dept. of Agriculture, Gannoruwa, Sri Lanka iii) Activities of Post Harvest Technology (IPHT) by Dr. Mrs. Wanashika Thilakaratne, Director, Institute of Post Harvest Technology, Anuradhapura and iv) The Triple Delight: Cargills Fruits and Vegetables Value Chain by Mr. Haridas Fernando, Deputy General Manager, Cargills (Ceylon) PL. Moreover by exposure field visit the participants got an overview to understand by observing practical postharvest handling of fresh fruits and vegetables in Sri Lanka through a 'HADABIMA'. This 'HADABIMA' model (with Ministry of Agriculture) under which there is a system of collection fruits and vegetables from the target farmers in 'rural collection centre' to retail store by avoiding the 'middle man' for ensuring right price for farmers. In addition, participants of the workshop made a visit to the Institute of Post Harvest Technology (IPHT), operating under the Ministry of Agriculture in Sri Lanka who are involved in research and development. There was sharing and demonstrations of agro-processing machineries of new innovations based on the best practices like handling and packaging, storage techniques/technologies, logistics management and transportation, food quality and food safety.

## Activities in Nepal:

### Horizontal Learning Process, Nepal

A Workshop on Horizontal Learning Process was held in Kathmandu, Nepal from 31 March-2 April 2014, where CIRDAP along with its Link Institution- LDТА organised this programme. The workshop supported by GIZ, Nepal and CIRDAP. The main aim of this workshop was to introduce the concept of Horizontal Learning Process and its methodology. This workshop comprised of active participation of all the participants in order to conceptualise about how HLP functions. The other objective of this workshop was for all participants to identify good practices of their respective organisations for good governance in the local and peer level in Nepal.

CIRDAP, being a member of HLP, was keen to introduce this new process to one of its member countries-Nepal, so that sharing of good practices could occur between CMC.

The programme was inaugurated by the Secretary of MOFALD, Nepal. In the first half of the day, there was a session where welcome speeches were given by Mr. Jaya (LDТА), Mr. Mathew (GIZ), Dr. Effendi (DG, CIRDAP), and Executive Director of LDТА. Mr. Shahbaz (Director, CIRDAP) made a brief presentation on HLP.



*Group photo of the Nepal HLP workshop*



*Group Discussions*

The second half started with self-introduction of all participants, followed by participants engaging in activities, conducted by Mr. Santanu Lahiri (main Resource Person), with the aim of creating, an informal atmosphere so that the practical field environment could be formed during the workshop. During the afternoon, an activity was conducted with useless item to show how everything is useful-everything, every person, and every experience. In the afternoon session of the workshop, an expectation list was also done about what participants wanted to achieve by the end of the three-day workshop.

In the second day, all the participants were divided into five groups: LDТА 1, LDТА 2, Municipality 1, Municipality 2, and NGO-VDC, where all groups had to choose best practices of their respective organisation. The groups then had to vote for only three good practices, which they thought could be replicated and then made a brief presentation. There was also a presentation on HLP by Mr. Lahiri, where he described the steps, methodology, and format of this process. At the end of the day, everyone jointly venture detected the objectives, assumptions, principles, challenges of applying HLP framework in Nepal.

On the third and last day, a presentation on HLP in local language-Nepali was done by Mr. Jaya; the presentation also included how to use HLP for development from the current state in Nepal. The groups also made fact sheets, following the format that had been shown by Mrs. Mufti, which would be in the official Nepal HLP website. The official Nepal HLP Website was launched by the Secretary of MOFALD. At the end of the workshop, a small activity was conducted by Mr. Lahiri for everyone to see



the amount of understanding and knowledge that had been gathered during the entire workshop. The activity was: two hotel staff was summoned from the restaurant and three participants from the workshop volunteered, where they had to explain HLP concept to these two women in five minutes. Then at the end, the two staffs had to say what they understood. If the hotel staffs would fail to understand what was being described to them, then it would imply that the workshop was a failure, as the participants could not explain the process to people from the grass-root level.

In the end, it was observed that the staffs understood everything, which meant that the participants had internalised HLP, and hence were successful in describing the concept in easy language to the two women.

This last activity was conducted in the last session of the workshop, where the honorary Secretary of Nepal was present, along with DG-CIRDAP, Executive Director-LDTA, Director-GIZ, Resource Persons and all the participants of the workshop.

The Nepal HLP Workshop was successfully conducted, and the honorary Secretary of Nepal repeatedly thanked CIRDAP for organising this workshop as now Nepal government also had the opportunity of developing the current status with concentrating on the positive perspective, highlighting the good side and having an optimistic attitude from where improvement can be achieved. DG, CIRDAP stated that his observation during the workshop was that had seen healthy competitive environment, full participation from all members where he could conclude happily that Nepal would derive great achievement with this positive participation for development.

CIRDAP and LDTA also jointly gave certificates to all the participants who had attended the HLP Nepal Workshop, and the workshop ended with a group photo session.

### **Round Table Meeting with Development Partners, Nepal**

CIRDAP collaboratively with LDTA and GIZ, Nepal conducted a round table meeting of the Development Partners and other stakeholders on 3rd April in Kathmandu. The objective of the meeting was to share the action plan with development partners, which prepared during HLP workshop by participants. It was in order to seek their support for implementing HLP in collaboration with Village Development Communities (VDCs).

Development Partners have shown their interest to provide their support for follow up HLP in Nepal and implement in the field. LOGIN also showed his keen interest to offer financial support to have exposure visit on HLP in Bangladesh by HLP team of Nepal. SDC was also interested to support the action plan and proposal, which will be prepared in near future.



*Visit to Local Development Training Academy, Kathmandu, Nepal*



*Discussion with different stakeholders and development partner*

CIRDAP team consisted of DG, CIRDAP and Director, PPD, workshop resource person, two facilitators, Ms. Nudrat Mufti from Pakistan and Mr. Mohammad Tareq from World Bank Bangladesh

paid a visit to CIRDAP Link Institute in Nepal, Local Development Training Institute to have a discussion on further collaborative programmes and also the procedure of HLP implementation in Nepal. There was an explanation on LDTA and the infrastartural facilities of it and also the number of the programmes. Then it was also discussed the as LDTA has a good number of facilities, CIRDAP may think to have some international training or other programmes at LDTA.

### Meeting with Honourable Foreign Minister, Nepal

DG, CIRDAP and Resource Persons of HLP met H.E. Mahendra Bahadur Pandey, Honourable Minister for Foreign Affairs, Government of Nepal on 2 March 2014. This meeting was arranged by H.E. Ambassador of Nepal in Bangladesh. DG, CIRDAP shared about the CIRDAP policy bodies meeting and about the HLP Workshop and Roundtable meeting. He also mentioned about the CIRDAP Contact Ministry and Link Institute in Nepal. There was a small brief on HLP by DG, CIRDAP as mentioning that CIRDAP is mandated to share the good practices of member countries to others. H.E. welcomed the visiting team and thanked CIRDAP for helping Local Government of Nepal and its development. He also appreciated CIRDAP to take initiative to bring the HLP resource team to Nepal and make a strong connect of Nepal to HLP team, Bangladesh. He added that a knowledge sharing practice like HLP was used to be practiced in Nepal by different format process and it had a slogan as “Each One, Teach One”. This slogan was appreciated by resource persons and they mentioned that they would use this phrase as alternative name for HLP.



*DG, CIRDAP is handing over the CIRDAP Emblem to H.E. Minister of MoFA, Nepal*

### Horizontal Learning Process in Indonesia

CIRDAP is in the process of creating a strong link with local government institution of member countries, as one of the main agenda for next coming years is Local Government Development of its member countries. Subsequently, i. CIRDAP became a member of Working Team on Horizontal Learning Programme as one of the good practices of Local Government Division of CIRDAP contact ministry in Bangladesh namely Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives, ii. CIRDAP also became a member of Local Government Initiatives and Network funded by SDC and based in New Delhi, India. Therefore, CIRDAP is trying to share the good practices of Local Government institutes through conducting some programmes with Local Government training centres within CMCs. For example, one programme with Local Development Training Academy (LDTA), Nepal was conducted in collaboration with GIZ in April-May 2014. In addition, another programme in collaboration with The Governance Institute of Home Affairs, which shortly called IPDN (Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri, [www.ipdn.ac.id](http://www.ipdn.ac.id)) under Ministry of Home Affairs, Indonesian contact Ministry to CIRDAP, was organised in Lombok Island during 20-22 June. IPDN trains the young officers who were appointed to local government and will serve in the districts.

The programme was a workshop on sharing the “Horizontal Learning Process (HLP)” through Building Capacity of Local Government. 35 of the IPDN trainees who will serve in the districts attended the workshop to see the piloting of one HLP workshop, which can be replicated in the field. The programme included the communication style of officers/ practitioners in the peer and local level, identifying hidden talent, sharing the experiences of HLP Bangladesh, sharing the good practices of CMCs, group dynamics, practicing the identification of good practices among the participants in different groups, presentation on selected good practices by participants, explanation on Fact Sheets, preparation of Fact



Sheets and other subjects. During the workshop 10 experiences were presented out of which three selected as good practices by direct voting of participants, which are as follows: a) Environment Management Through Garbage Bank b) Heritage maintenance of Culture entitled “Tenun Lombok” and c) Creating the Institution on Social Model for Reducing Poverty

One focal person was elected by the participants to communicate with CIRDAP for finalising the Fact Sheets as CIRDAP is preparing of good practices of member countries in Fact Sheets format to share among CMCs. Mr. Mark Ellery, Mr. Sukharanjan Suter and Mr. Hossein Shahbaz were the resource persons of the workshop.



*Group photo of workshop participants, organisers and resource persons in Indonesia*



*Field visit on English Learning in Rural Community, Lombok*

#### **Learning Visit on HLP in Bangladesh by delegates from Nepal**

CIRDAP had initiated Horizontal Learning Programme (HLP) in Nepal 31 March – 3rd April 2014 by conducting a workshop and made an ‘Action Plan’ with donors and development partners in round table in collaboration with LDTA (Link institute of CIRDAP in Nepal) and GIZ. Later a ‘Concept Note’ was prepared by LOGIN in collaboration with CIRDAP and LDTA. Accordingly a visit programme was organised for 8-day as a ‘learning visit’ on HLP in Bangladesh on June 28, 2014, organised by LOGIN Asia with support from HLP in Bangladesh. Two teams that are more similar will come to Bangladesh for a similar purpose. Shams Uddin Ahmed, and Focal Person-HLP in Bangladesh and Joint Secretary, Local Government Division, Ministry of Local Government , Rural Development and Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C) , Kabir M. Ashraf Alam, Director General, National Institute of Local Government (NILG), Mirva Tuulia Moilanen, Communications Specialist, WSP-World Bank, Hossein Shahbaz, Director, CIRDAP (Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific), Akramul Haque, Director, Training, NILG, Nurul Islam, Research Officer, NILG, Manika Mitra, Research Officer, NILG, Dr. Akira Munakata, Advisor, Local Governance, JICA, Salim Hossain Bhuiya, Data Specialist, WSP-World Bank, Mahidul Islam, Team Leader, Horizontal Learning Centre (HLC-DPC), Tareq Mahmud, Consultant, WSP, Mohammad Adbul Hamid, UP Helpline and Samar Roy, Director, Media Professionals Group spoke in different sessions in this programme.



*Local Government Division, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C) presenting his concluding remarks*

Horizontal learning is a Local Government Institutions led peer-to-peer learning programme initiated by the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives, Govt. of Bangladesh and supported by development partners, which compliments conventional capacity building programmes. The process is led by

658 Union Parishads in 68 Upazilas and supported by 32 partners with presence in over 3000 Union Parishads. District Hubs have been established in 04 districts covering 260 UPs in 24 Upazilas. HLP was formally initiated in November, 2007. Programme supported by WSP and another 32 Development Partners. HLP started with focusing on water and sanitation good practices, but gradually widen good practices on good governance, health, education and so on. Initially it was started in 66 Union Parishads of 5 Upazilas with 5 Development Partners, now scaled up in 658 Union Parishads of 68 Upazilas and 31 Municipalities.

Gradually HLP is becoming a global programme by replicating in different countries. In India, HLP was initiated in August 2012 in 15 districts of Maharashtra by Resource and Support Centre for Development and Mahila Rajsatta Andolan with support from SDC. HLP was launched in Gujarat, in December 2012 by the Kutch Nav Nirman Abhiyan with support from SDC. It was launched in Iran by BRWA with support from Asian Productivity Organisation (JICA) and APERDRI with support from CIRDAP. CIRDAP in collaboration with its Link Institutions 2013-2014, launched HLP in Pakistan, Vietnam, Fiji, Nepal and Indonesia.

### Sharing of Horizontal Learning Process in Afghanistan

CIRDAP organised a workshop on Horizontal Learning Process on 2–3 September 2014 in Afghanistan in collaboration with National Solidarity Programme (NSP) and Afghanistan Institute for Rural Development (AIRD) under Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), Government of I.R. Afghanistan. Welcome address delivered by Mr Omar Anwarzai, the main coordinator from AIRD while Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, Pilot Projects Division, CIRDAP briefed about the Workshop Objectives and Introduction on HLP to all participants.



*Programme participants*



*Workshop in Progress*

Dr Cecep Effendi, DG, CIRDAP made a speech as special guest mentioning about CIRDAP mandates as hub for sharing the success stories and good practices among its member countries by referring to some recent programmes organised before like: Reduction of Post Harvest Losses in Fruits and Vegetables Supply Chain” in Sri Lanka and “HLP workshop” in Nepal and Indonesia. He also expressed his interest on creating Regional Network among CIRDAP Member Countries on specific themes by which countries of one region can share their demands and supplies on the specified theme. The most developed country on that specific theme can play its role by chairing and coordinating of the network. By giving an example, he mentioned that Afghanistan has very good experiences on Community Led Development Programme which can be shared to other CMCs. Indonesia can play main role on Homestead/kitchen Industries network, he explained. H.E. Minister Wais Ahmad Barmak-Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development attended in the opening ceremony of “Workshop on Horizontal Learning Process” as chief guest.

The aforementioned two-day workshop was organised for NSP’s field and national level staff as flagship programme of the country. In his opening remarks, he shed-light on value of such workshops and appreciated from the presence of representatives of CIRDAP member countries in this workshop including Indonesia, Bangladesh and Islamic Republic of Iran. Likewise, he wished further cooperation



of CIRDAP with MRRD national programmes. He briefed NSP in very detail, as he was the first director of the NSP programme. He mentioned that National Solidarity Programme (NSP) was created in 2002 by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development to develop the ability of Afghan communities to identify, plan, manage and monitor their own development projects. The main objective of NSP aims to build, strengthen and maintain Community Development Councils (CDCs) as effective institutions for local governance and socio-economic development. Through the promotion of good local governance, the NSP works to empower rural communities to make decision affecting their own lives and livelihoods. Empowered rural communities collectively contribute to increased human security. The programme is inclusively supporting all of the communities including the poorest and vulnerable people. NSP strongly promotes a unique development paradigm, whereby communities can make important decisions and participate in all stages of their development, contributing their own resources. With the support of FPs, communities elect their leaders and representatives to form voluntary Community Development Councils (CDCs) through a transparent and democratic process.

There was a presentation by Mr. Executive Director of NSP. He added to speech of honourable minister that NSP was created to cover all village communities of country, which are almost 41,000 by September 2015 with establishing 39,056 CDCs. Presently NSP covers more than 39,000 villages after three phases of implementation. The total budget is about 2.5 billion USD which 80% of it has been already utilised. The main donors of the programme are the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA), the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF), the Japanese



*Sharing best practices*

Social Development Fund (JSDF) and bilateral donors. Contributors to the NSP via the ARTF include Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, EC/EU, Finland, Germany, Norway, Sweden, UK/ DFID, and the United States. Bilateral donors include the Governments/ Embassies/ International Aid Agencies from Cyprus, Denmark, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland. There was a presentation.

Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, Pilot Projects Division, CIRDAP as resource person and facilitator in HLP workshop mentioned about the objectives of the workshop as below:

- To share the best practice of Bangladesh to CLI officials of Afghanistan to familiarise with the policy framework and programmes
- To identify the approach for possible adoption and replication
- To discuss the concept, process and approaches of the Horizontal Learning Process in the connection of RD and PA activities
- To develop a work plan for their organisations/regions
- To identify some best practices of Afghanistan and prepare fact sheets to share with other CMCs.

HLP workshop was for two days with a total of 35 participants from NSP and AIRD. During workshop, participants could share their field experiences as good practices to others which some of them are as follows: a) Electricity the Sign of Development b) A Clinic Called Mariam c) Access to Healthy Drinking Water d) Community Development Council Fulfil is Our Wishes and e) Fixing the amount of Dowry.

### Exposure cum study visit of Chief Engineer, PWD

Seven high officials of Housing Foundation (HF), Iran paid a visit to Bangladesh which arranged by CIRDAP on 28 Oct- 4 Nov 2011. They visited some experiences of Bangladesh on Low Cost Housing and projects of Public Work Department (PWD), Bangladesh. They also had a meeting with Chief Engineer and high officials of PWD. As a follow up action of that visit, CIRDAP arranged another exposure visit for Engr. Md. Kabir Ahmed Bhuiyan, Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (PWD), Government of Bangladesh from 21–27 February to Iran.

The objective of the exposure visit was to interact with Housing Foundation and to get some experiences of Government of Iran on Rural Housing, maintenance of rural areas and Renovation activities and process in rural areas. The foundation also prepares Guide Plan for every village, which is like supplementary plan to master plan. It includes all development activities and plans for almost 10 years later on new construction, roads, footpath, public places, renovation, road repair, drainage, water and gas pipeline supply, mosques and many other development practices.



*Renovated Rural Public Roads by Housing Foundation*



*Village footpath renovated by Housing Foundation using local raw materials*

Chief engineer visited to villages in north of Tehran province under Shimranat district where both villages were renovated by housing foundation recently. During the meeting with officials of Housing Foundation, they mentioned that Tehran province has 534 villages having more than 20 households. HF has already prepared Guide Plan for 331 of them. HF implemented Guide Plan for 220 villages, which means that 220 villages have been already renovated. These projects are getting help from the villagers to be implemented, which it is called Private Public Partnership-PPP.

The Housing Foundation was established on 21 March 1358 by decree of Imam Khomeini in order to provide house for poor and also responsible for development of villages and cities to build residential units in the framework of government policies and programmes of the Islamic Republic was formed. Islamic Revolution Housing Foundation, shortly Housing Foundation headquarters is located in the capital (Tehran) and 31 provincial offices are in the capitals of provinces and almost 300 branches are in cities, across the country. In addition to the seven executive agencies to effectively carry out specific responsibilities in relation to Housing Foundation Housing development in towns and villages and rebuild the damaged areas and impoverished classes of accidents are responsible duties. The Constitution Housing Foundation and its laws passed by parliament which permits Housing Foundation on providing loan to the build house in Rural Areas, construct the houses to provide to the poor, renovate the public areas, technicians and construct roads and so on.

The main duties of the Islamic Revolution's Housing Foundation are:

- a) Study, diagnosis and determine the housing needs of unprivileged rural and urban areas and poor; b) design and modification of roads and public places in rural areas; c) Provide facilities and rural housing loan with a minimum interest and monitor it; and d) act as coordinator for other responsible organisations in rural area for any infrastructure development.



### Sharing with Young Health Cadre Doctors at BARD:

Dr. Cecep Effendi, DG, CIRDAP was invited to attend the Concluding Session of the 106th Special Foundation Training Course for Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) Health Cadre Officials as the Chief Guest on 10 September 2014 at BARD, CIRDAP Link Institution, Bangladesh.

As Chief Guest, Dr. Cecep Effendi expressed his gratitude and thanks to BARD authority especially to Mr. Md. Mashiur Rahman, DG, BARD and Chairperson at the concluding session of the foundation course for inviting him at this occasion. Dr. Muslah Uddin Ahmed, Principal, Comilla Medical College, Director Training of BARD, Dr. Kamrul Ahsan, Course Coordinator, Mr. Newaz Ahmed Chowdhury and other faculty members of BARD were present at the ceremony apart from 37 newly appointed doctors from BCS (Health) cadre.



*DG, CIRDAP addressing the concluding session*



*Discussion in progress*

In his brief speech Dr. Effendi opined that the doctor's profession as a noble one. It is a unique character who works for the cause of humanity as he described physician not merely a profession but a service to the community. In addition, he pointed out fellow feeling /bondage of the doctor's profession, as they do not charge each other when they are under treatment, which is uncommon in other professions.

Since Dr. Sri Rahaju Effendi (Dr. Effendis' spouse) is also a doctor by profession (ophthalmologist) she was invited to speak something in front of the young doctors who will be posted in different areas of Bangladesh. Therefore, she described briefly her own career as a doctor and working experiences in rural areas with different Islands/areas of Indonesia. This message was very encouraging and was treated as an encouragement from a senior of the same profession on Health Services from Indonesia to go to rural areas where there is need of health services.

The Special Foundation Training Course was for two months' duration. The training course for BCS (Health) cadre officials was from 13 July to 10 September 2014. The general objective of the course is to create a base for developing a corps of well-groomed officers from Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) cadre, dedicated to the welfare of the nation and people in a changing global context with special focus on Bangladesh.

The course includes different training techniques such as lecture, reading assignment, library work, case study, workshop, group discussion, debate extension lecture, village study, book review and presentation, film show and study tour etc. The course contents included Bangladesh, government policy and constitution, decentralisation and public administration, development economics, personnel, financial management, statistical measures, project management, computer orientation and field study and presentation, games etc.

At the end of the concluding programme Dr. Cecep Effendi, DG, CIRDAP handed over the certificates to the young doctors based on the performances of the special foundation-training course organised by BARD.

A cultural show was performed by young doctors of the foundation training course at an auditorium of BARD on the evening of 9th September 2014. Young doctors performed song, dance, drama, fun, recitation of poem etc. which were appreciated by audience. Audiences were charmed by the performances of the young physicians as a part of their talents under extra curriculum. Before departure from BARD to Dhaka, Dr. Effendi along with his team had a chance to see at a glance the Alban vihara/Shalban Bihar in Mainamati, Comilla, Bangladesh which is one of the best known Buddhistviharas in the Indian Subcontinent and is one of the most important archaeological sites in the Bangladesh.

### **Signing MoU with Dhaka University**

CIRDAP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Dhaka University (DU) on 14 July 2014 at the VC's office of Dhaka University. Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General of CIRDAP and Treasurer of DU Prof. Dr. Md. Kamal Uddin signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organisations. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique thanked the CIRDAP authorities for signing the MoU. He hoped that through signing of this MoU,



*MoU Signing Ceremony*

both the organisations could be able to contribute significantly for the development of common people of Asia and the Pacific. This would also inspire and encourage higher education process of Dhaka University, he added. The main purpose of the MoU other than exchange of students DU with CIRDAP Member Countries is to organise national, regional and international seminars, symposiums, workshops and policy dialogues on contemporary issues like effects of climate change in agriculture development,

disaster management, poverty alleviation, women empowerment and rural development on mutual benefits. Besides, academic exchange, joint research and collaborations on various fields are the prime objective of this MoU.

### **CIRDAP Official Participates in International Conference in Malaysia**

The Institute for Rural Advancement (IFRA), BANGI, Malaysia in association with Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Centre for Innovative Planning and Development (CIPD) and others and many others jointly organised Rural Research and Planning Group (RRPG) 5th International Conference and Field Study Malaysia 2014 with a Broad Theme “Managing Rural Change in Turbulent World: Towards a Resilient and Sustainable Rural Society” during August 25-29, 2014. Director General, CIRDAP attended as special invitee. Mr. Shahbaz participated in the conference as paper presenter under the sub-theme: Rural Sustainable Project Experience and Case Studies. The title of the presentation of Mr. Shahbaz was Rural Inhabitants’ Knowledge and Experiences on Salinity in Mangrove Forest of Bangladesh.



*Programme participants*



### Skill Development on Embroidery under Family Strengthening Programme

CIRDAP has developed a cordial working relationship with underprivileged children at SOS Children's Village in Bangladesh since 2012. Accordingly, CIRDAP conducted a programme on "Skill Development on Embroidery" from 15-23 October 2014 at SOS Children's Villages, Mirpur, Dhaka. A total of 19 mothers from various districts participated in the programme, and resource persons of the programme were nominated by Pilot Projects Division, CIRDAP. The resource persons were Ms. Ismat Ara and her Associate Ms. Ishrat, specialised trainers on embroidery and handicrafts. Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP, Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, Pilot Projects Division (PPD) and Mr. David Hilton, Assistant Programme Officer, PPD were present at the inauguration of CIRDAP's Skill Development Programme on Embroidery under 18th Formal SOS Mother's Training Course. Skills received through this programme on embroidery would be disseminated to the children by their mothers, and would be very useful in generating income in future.



*Group photograph of programme Participants*



### Exposure Visit to Indonesia for High officials of Bangladesh

CIRDAP arranged an exposure visit programme for two high officials of Government of Bangladesh from 3-8 November 2014 to visit Indonesia. Engineer Md. Kabir Ahmed Bhuiyan and Engineer Md. Ahsanul Khan as Chief Engineer and Chief Architect respectively of Public Work Department (PWD) under Ministry of Housing and Public Works, Government of Bangladesh, participated in this visit. The purpose of the visit was to see and get acquainted about the renovation of old Jakarta and to see the tourism infrastructure in Bali Island run by central and local government.



*Roof of the Museum where the maintenance utilities are located,*



*Handicraft/Batique producers are shown in the tourist centre*

Meanwhile, the team also visited some projects on beautification of Jakarta like as road infrastructure for smooth running of traffic, greenery buildings and drainage system. The main field visit was done to see the renovation of historical museum located in old Jakarta. The building of this museum was constructed during Dutch colony in 1710 as City Hall, but it was opened as museum in 1974 to display objects from



the prehistory period of the city region and through the Dutch colonisation period from the 16th century until Independence of Indonesia in 1948. Therefore, originally, it was not constructed as museum and it was decided by local government to set up a museum to attract more tourism. The first step of renovation was to find out and locate the problems of museum by a private company who won the project through tender process. One of the main issues in renovation was time schedule as they could not close museum for long time and they could not keep the items for long time in bad condition area and in unsafe and unsecured place. The maintaining of the items was also very important during the renovation time.

It should be noted here that In Jakarta, local government is an elected body, which called city mayor. It is mandated to do the process of maintenance, renovation of old building, construction, parks, drainage, greenery and beautification of the capital city.

## Activities in Philippines

### Exclusive Value Chain of Agriculture Crops

The Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Southeast Asian Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) on 2 July 2014. CIRDAP made several correspondences for collaborative programmes and accordingly participated in the second International Conference on “Agricultural and Rural Development in Southeast Asia: Strengthening Resilience, Equity and Integration in ASEAN Food and Agriculture Systems” from 12-13 November 2014 held at Manila, Philippines.



*A group photograph of the programme participants*

SEARCA Director Gil C. Saguiguit, Jr. inaugurated the conference on 12 November 2014 followed by the keynote address of ‘Pres. Benigno S. Aquino III’ delivered by Hon. Virgilio De los Reyes, Secretary for Agrarian Reform of Philippines. A total of 22 partner-session conveners and more than 65 thought leaders and experts from Southeast, South Asia and outside of the region engaged professionally in the conference, and they made presentations too. The Conference featured plenary sessions, thematic parallel sessions, side events, exhibits, field visits and panel discussions. A total of around 400 participants from a wide range of relevant stakeholders from public, private/INGOs and research institutions including Agricultural Rural Development (ARD) experts from CIRDAP member countries and beyond.

In this International conference, CIRDAP conducted a parallel session on "Exclusive Value Chain of Agriculture Crops" on 13 November 2014. This conference was aimed to provide a venue for sharing the wide and diverse knowledge pool on ARD that exists within and beyond the Southeast region. In recent years, there is growing importance of considering the entire agricultural value chain spanning the



range from farm finance and provision of farm inputs through logistics and value adding/processing activities on to getting the products to the final consumers. Transport and logistics is another significant element in the agricultural value chains, and is a particular challenge in the archipelagic economies of the region. Efficient value chains foster resilience, especially in the economic dimension inclusive value chains foster equity. So, this value chain of agriculture crops theme is intend to examine the range of processes and transactions spanning the agriculture and fisheries value chain from rural finance and farm credit, input markets and post-harvest practices, processing and value-adding, agri-based manufacturing, transport and logistics services. This includes in broad: Farm Credits, Processing/Value Adding, and Logistics System.

Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, Pilot Projects Division, CIRDAP was the moderator of a parallel session on "Exclusive Value Chain of Agriculture Crops". The session had two presentations respectively from Indonesia and Sri Lanka. Dr. Y. Aris Purwanto, Department of Mechanical and Biosystem Engineering, Bogor Agricultural University and resource person selected from CIRDAP made a presentation on a paper entitled "Supply Chain and Value Chain Development of Shallot in Indonesia". In a nutshell, Dr. Aris informed that Shallot is one of the strategic commodities that affects inflation rate in Indonesia since Indonesia produces annually 1050000 tons while the consumption reaches 935000 tons. Supply chain activities for shallot in Indonesia generally are carried out as follows: a) farmers market their shallot to small-scale collectors around their villages; and b) large-scale collectors, or directly to wholesale markets. A partnership market is a special market aims to supplying shallot to processing industries. This market is tied by a contract between the industry and the farmers who are members of a cooperative or a farmer group as Dr. Aris briefed in his stipulated time.

Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, Pilot Projects Division, CIRDAP delivered a presentation entitled "Competitive Supply Chains in Agribusiness of Sri Lanka" prepared by Dr. K.H. Sarananda, Head, Food Research Unit, Department of Agriculture, Sri Lanka since he was not able to attend the conference. The paper informed that a large volume of fruits and vegetables are grown in Sri Lanka, which mainly marketed in the country, and a very small volume is exported. In fact, post-harvest loss of fruits and vegetables is also considerably high and the quality of fresh production at the market is poor. Private sector is mainly dominating the marketing of fresh production. Involvement of government sector in marketing is negligible. However, government organisations are involved in marketing. At the mean time, private sector organisations are specialising to increase the volume of export. The paper discussed the supply chain management of fresh crops in three different supply chains (e.g. private, government and export) in Sri Lanka.

#### **Exposure Visit to Agro-Processing SME**

Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, Pilot Projects Division, CIRDAP made a visit on 14 November, 2014 to Cirque de Noel Bazaar event that was organised by private sector from November 14-30, 2014 at the World Trade Centre, Manila, Philippines. Two batches of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Organisations (ARBOs) which constitute farmers' cooperatives and women's associations participated partially in the event.

Fair dealt with agro-processing SME coordinated by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) that is the Link Institution of CIRDAP in Philippines. DAR has innovated some 'Agro-Processing SMEs' from the Village Level Processing Centre Enhancement Project



*Visit to Cirque de Noel Bazaar*

(VLPCEP). These agro-processing products include snacks like coffee from rice, chips from squash, dry fruits etc. A private specialised company 'UMIC International Inc.' has taken the responsibility for marketing these concepts and products innovations by DAR. Engaging the UMIC international Inc., who assisted in developing a distinct logo for their products parallel with the customised capacity building activities that will improve their food processing skills, financial management, sustainable crop production and therefore enabling them to achieve quality products.

### **Strengthening Local Government Institutions (LGI) for Disability Inclusion: From Practice to Policy Advocacy**

Horizontal Learning Programme (HLP) thematic workshop entitled "Strengthening Local Government Institutions (LGIs) for Disability Inclusion: From Practice to Policy Advocacy" was held at CIRDAP on 20 November 2014. Principal objective of workshop was to share experiences of Union Parishad Chairmen on replications of their good practices on disability inclusion approaches and its potential policy implications in lowest local government system in Bangladesh. Relevant Departments of Bangladesh Government like Local Government Division (LGD), Rural Development Board (BRDB) and Department of Social Services (DSS) attended the workshop as policy advocacy players. CIRDAP as partner of the programme and other development partners like Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), NGO Forum, Centre for Disability in

Development (CDD), some other members of HLP Group and Chairmen of Union Parishads were actively participated at this thematic workshop.



*Workshop in progress*

At the inauguration of the programme, a welcome address and workshop objectives were delivered by Ms. Mirva Tuulia Moilanen, Communication Specialist, WSP World Bank-Bangladesh while the programme was anchored by Mr. Rashidul Azam Russell, Assistant Coordinator, CDD. Speeches by the Special Guests were delivered respectively by Mr. Saidur Rahman, Director General, DSS and

Additional Secretary to the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP. Mr. Monzur Hossain, Senior Secretary, Local Government Division, GoB was the Chief Guest. In the inauguration programme, the Key Note Paper of the workshop in line with thematic title was unveiled by the Guests.

Chairmen of Union Parishads shared their good practices relevant with supporting disabled people and facilitating their engagement in process of development and also local government. Disabled participants raised their requirements from the local government especially from Union Parishad Chairmen. They also discussed about other relevant issues like awareness, publicity, budget, taxation and improving services and accessibility of the disable persons' inclusion by different stakeholders including local government.

### **Regional Knowledge Sharing Programme on Supply Chain and Marketing of Agriculture Products**

CIRDAP has conducted a regional knowledge sharing programme entitled "Supply Chain and Marketing of Agriculture Products" from 18-19 December 2014 in Yezin Agricultural University (YAU), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The programme was organised in collaboration with Department of Agriculture Planning (DAP - CIRDAP's Link Institution) and YAU under Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar.



The Chief Guest of the inauguration session Dr. Myo Kywe, Rector, YAU thanked CIRDAP to bring pool of regional experts/resource persons on value chain and marketing of agricultural products. He also briefed about YAU and emphasised on the Research and Development (R&D) where CIRDAP may join with other development partners. In the inaugural session, Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, Pilot Projects Division (PPD), CIRDAP expressed his gratitude to DAP and YAU for cooperating CIRDAP, and briefed about the programme.

In several correspondences, the host country Myanmar expressed their willingness to get CIRDAP technical inputs from the experts of CIRDAP's network on post-harvest group to share supply chain and agricultural marketing with value addition from selected CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs) in order to learn from each other based on 'best practices' considering the own country context.

Some research results and success stories of selected CIRDAP Member Countries i.e. Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Myanmar were presented during the programme. A total of eight presentations in line with programme topics and theme were presented at the sharing programme of which two were from the host country of Myanmar. Participants were from different groups consisted of concerned Ministry officials e.g. DAP, Department of Agricultural Research (DAR) etc., selected faculty/researchers/academic members of YAU and students of YAU. CIRDAP also facilitated to form four groups from agriculture students with objectives for group recommendations based on expert's presentation from CMCs.



*Knowledge sharing programme*

These group presentations might be used for an action plan to policy makers in Myanmar based on knowledge sharing on Supply Chain and Marketing of Agriculture Products. The groups were facilitated with a teacher from Yezin and facilitated by Director, PPD, and APO, PPD, CIRDAP along with Pro-VC of Open University, Bangladesh. The four groups were assigned to work on certain critical issues as follows: minimise the losses in the process of supply chain and value chain; potential barriers in the process of supply chain and value chain; ensure the high quality of agro products and vegetables to consumers; and streamline the supply chain (scientific management mechanism through institutional support services). Panellists included all foreign experts/presenters along with Myanmar presenters who participated in the wrapping up discussions. The panel discussions were chaired by Dr. Khondoker Mokaddem Hossain, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Bangladesh Open University and wrapped by Rector, YAU.

The foreign experts/presenters also made a very brief field visit to Yezin Agricultural University (YAU) and observed students activities in widening and examining the germination from seed in agricultural field.

Concluding remarks at the programme was made by Dr. Ye Tint Tun, Director General, Department of Agricultural Research (DAR), Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar. DG, DAR opined that value chain requires some environment friendly policy from government. He also emphasised on the synchronisation between policy and supply chain. He thanked the organisers like DAP, YAU and specially CIRDAP to arrange the programme.

Dr. Myo Kywe, Rector, YAU appreciated all organisers to conduct this regional programme and thanked specially to CIRDAP on behalf of University and Ministry. He also expressed his opinion that CIRDAP is included in R&D process in YAU along with other development partners with citation of forthcoming event of 90 years celebration of YAU.

Mr. Hossein Shahbaz thanked YAU and DAP for offering the experts and personnel, excellent hospitalities, logistics and professional support, which helped experts from CMCs and CIRDAP to



*Presentation*



*Field visit*

organise the regional programme. He opined that this beginning of collaboration, which may take Myanmar to other, CMCs through network of experts group on workshop theme. Lastly, he congratulated Yezin Agricultural University for their 90 years celebrations.

Further, majority of the presentations showed the participation of farmers is limited on supply chain and marketing activities. The processing and marketing are usually the roles of the private sectors. As such, the concept of farming as a business and the entrepreneurial roles of small farmers still need a breakthrough. Each country also presented their own measures and innovations that address concerns on supply chains. However, it also showed that the efforts are not enough and needs more research and innovative actions for either new strategies or mechanisms to roll out the best practices presented. In fact, the regional sharing activity has called for stronger collaborative actions among CIRDAP member countries. As the Director of CIRDAP said in his closing remarks, that supply chain and value chain development approach requires the efforts and supports of different stakeholders in the chains. The important roles of academe/universities had been recognised in the presentations of Myanmar, Philippines and Indonesia and Bangladesh specifically on addressing requirements related to research and development, business model building, and course development for enhancing the skills of extension/development workers for both on technology and agribusiness.

### **Food Security Cluster**

The Bangladesh Food Security Cluster (FSC) was formed in 2012 to support the Government and the Local Consultative Group on Disaster and Emergency Response (LOG-DER) on both preparedness and response measures in times of emergencies and to strengthen the collective capacity of humanitarian actors. Since CIRDAP gets regular invitation and accordingly, APO, PPD M. David Hilton participated from CIRDAP at the monthly FSC Meeting Held in world Food Programme (WFP)-Bangladesh office on 20 October 2014. It is co-lead by FAO and WFP and functions Under the overall coordination of



*Monthly FSC Meeting at WFP Bangladesh office*



the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT), which acts as a coordination platform between different thematic clusters and the Government. The FSC members in Bangladesh include Government partners, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOS and donors. There was short presentation on Follow-Up on Flood Response by Mr. Anwarul Kabir (Head of Northern Operations WFP-Bangladesh). It was also decided to promote coordination in these areas by assigning District Focal Points (DFP) in flood affected areas of Bangladesh. It is expected that the lead agency will assign a field based representative from the relevant district to act as the DFP.

## Building Partnership with Stakeholders

### Discussion on Collaboration with Development Partners

CIRDAP organised a meeting among the development partners i.e. Speaha, SOS Children's Villages, Bangladesh, Grain Pro and Christian Commission for Bangladesh Development (CCBD) for possible collaboration on 14 July 2014 at CIRDAP Headquarters. The meeting was presided by DG, CIRDAP, Dr. Cecep Effendi and was participated by representatives from: a) Mr. Gulam Ahmed Ishaque, National Director, SOS Children's Village International in Bangladesh b) Mr. Murshed Salam, Country Representative, Grain Pro Inc. and Chairman, Allied Agro Industries. c) Mr. Mahbubul Islam, Policy and Development Adviser, CCDB d) Mr. Mosharrof Hossain Country Director, Spreeha e) Ms. Shahana Farid, Director of Operations, Spreeha. The agenda of the meeting was to find the ways and means to



*programme participants with guests*

work with Spreeha and other development partners through creating network among participating organisation from private sectors and NGOs.

Spreeha, originating from Bengali, means hope, intention, and strong desire. Spreeha Foundation, a Washington based non-profit organisation who also works with under privileged children and marginalised people in Bangladesh. Spreeha Foundation envisions using a collaborative approach in creating a private and public partnership model to

solve poverty issues. To further its mission in the areas of health, education, and empowerment, Spreeha will focus on and seek sponsorship funding from corporations, non-profits, non-governmental organisations, foundations, and individuals. The sponsorship opportunities are in the form of monetary donations, resources, and infrastructure support, etc.

There were some discussions among the participating organisations especially with CCDB, SOS Villages regarding possible collaboration with Spreeha by using each other's available resources (including infrastructures) and best practices. It is also decided the project personnel would visit SOS Villages and CCDB's programmes around Dhaka to identify the areas of collaboration by further discussions. DG and Director Training from CIRDAP briefed the meeting about the possibilities of establishing incubation centre on SME by India. SOS Villages briefed about the possibilities of using their training centres. CCDB Advisor briefed their inception and programmes. Finally, DG CIRDAP thanked the participating organisations with a hope of further discussions and visits among the stakeholders. Director PPD also, thanked the participants for this meeting to create a network among the development partners.

### Discussion with Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO

Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director Pilot Projects/Research a.i. along with APO, PPD Mr. David Hilton visited (27 August 2014) the office the Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO and had a brief meeting with Dr. Abbas Sadri, Director, ISESCO (The Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) Regional Office from Tehran, Iran, also, had some interactions with the resource persons and participants of the Regional Workshop on “Flood Management and Flood Related Disaster Mitigation” which was aimed to provide an opportunity to present lessons and practices the Asian Member States of ISESCO like Iran, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.



*Discussion with UNESCO official*

Also, CIRDAP team also, had a meeting on the same date with Md. Monjur Hossain, Deputy Secretary, GoB and Secretary for Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO where Dr. Mahbuba Nasreen, Director and Professor, Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies, University of Dhaka was present as resource person. The meeting was aimed to follow inclusive approach to other organisations like UNESCO, ISESCO, Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO or any other development partners. Also, the meeting was held to find the common areas of

interest as per the MoU between CIRDAP and IDMVS, University of Dhaka where there could more stronger network and take necessary action plan on the areas on contemporary issues like effects of climate change in agriculture development, disaster management by organising regional and international events or study on research areas by exchanging faculty members as per mutual benefits. The meeting was concluded with an expectation for further specific discussions bilaterally or multilaterally with Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO to find specific objectives in the areas on mutual interests.


### Road Map on Horizontal Learning Programme

Brainstorming Session to share ideas on ‘HLP Road Map: November 2015 - October 2020’ was held on 29 October 2014 at the National Institute of Local Government (NILG), Bangladesh chaired by Mr. Mustafa Kamal Haider, Director General of NILG. The session was moderated by Mr. Santanu Lahiri, Senior Decentralisation Consultant of Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP), World Bank and attended by the representatives of Horizontal Learning Programme (HLP) partner organisations including Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director, Pilot Projects Division, CIRDAP as one of the HLP core members from CIRDAP. The meeting started with a short presentation on HLP made by Mr. Santanu Lahiri. Participants took part in the discussion and shared their ideas to help formulating HLP Road Map: 2015-2020.



*Brainstorming Session in progress*





Mr. Hossein Shahbaz said that CIRDAP is branding HLP as a Bangladeshi innovation among its member countries. At present, CIRDAP replicated HLP in seven member countries. Referring to the need for institutionalisation of HLP, he said the proposed Framework would help in this regard. Mr. Shahbaz said that there is a scope of changing the proposed framework through sharing and discussion, and NILG, on behalf of the Government, should play the main role. He further said that the role of the Government must be strengthened in the Framework. Mr. Shahbaz proposed to help in preparing the proposal for the HLP 2015-'20 phase on behalf of CIRDAP. Referring to the active involvement of partner organisations, he suggested taking the HLP beyond Bangladesh borders.

# Training

## Regional Programmes

- Decentralised Governance and Delivery of Services – Way to Good Governance
- Rural Technologies for Inclusive Growth
- ICT Application for Rural Development
- Food and Nutritional Security Assurance through Efficient Response and Technology Management
- Application of Geo-Information System (GIS) for Mitigation and Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Management
- One Task, One Product and Sufficient Economy Philosophy
- Renewable Energy: Micro Hydro Power for Rural Development
- Renewable Energy: Biogas for Community Development
- Results Based Management with Special Focus on Rural Wage Employment Programme

## Diploma Programme

- Post Graduate Diploma Programme in Rural Development Management (9th Batch, 2014-15)

## Focus Areas

- ICT for Rural Development
- Governance Decentralised
- Technology for Food security
- GIS for Disaster Management
- Renewable Energy for Rural Development
- Result based Management





Since the inception of CIRDAP in 1979, the Training Division has played key role to provide technical support and promote integrated rural development in the region by organising different training and skill development programmes in CIRDAP member countries (CMCs). In recent years, the training programmes, which were geared towards advancing the cause, concept and strategies of IRD in the early years of its operation, have moved its focus to the areas of general planning, monitoring and evaluation, project analysis, training methodologies and training management. By 1990, CIRDAP training took up other concerns such as disasters management, environment, genders issues, and participatory approaches in planning, POPMAP application, and microcredit. In recent years, the Trainings Division is focusing on Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Renewable Energy, Rural Technology, Geographic Information System, Good Governance, Role of Local Government in Service Delivery for Poverty Alleviation etc.

During the year 2014, as in previous year, with the financial support from the government of India, a total of six regional training programmes were carried out in collaboration with National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, India in three CMCs, namely, Indonesia, Philippines and India. Besides, CIRDAP organised a regional Workshop on “One Tambon One Product and Sufficiency Economy Philosophy” in Thailand with financial support from the Government of Thailand. Moreover, the Government of Indonesia in cooperation with the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC) supported CIRDAP in organising a number of Training programmes on renewable energy for rural development.

## **Regional Programmes**

### **CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on “Decentralised Governance and Delivery of Services – Way to Good Governance”**

Decentralised Governance plays a crucial role in designing better way of good governance and Delivery of Services and Poverty Reduction both in the developed and developing nations. The Asia and the Pacific region is mostly affected by palpable poverty next to the African region and the rural areas in the CIRDAP nations are more daunted with myriad problems like hunger, poverty, unemployment, lack of good physical infrastructure facilities and poor delivery of services. The Decentralised Governance can alter the whole complexion and provide institutional support for service delivery.

Although, the world is turning into urban over the years but still over two-thirds population across the globe of poorest regions live in rural areas. It is estimated that more than half of the world's population lives on less than US \$ 2 per day. The South Asia region has the highest rate of poverty but other regions also have poorer incomes as a sizeable chunk of them live below the internationally defined poverty line of US \$ 2 per day. In many parts of the globe, the rural population still lacks access to safe drinking water as one-third rural residents lack access to safe drinking water, which is the basic requisite for human sustenance, let alone access to other basic services.

The priorities of rural development in CIRDAP countries focus on improving grassroots participation through decentralised governance and service delivery. The FAO's medium term plan is oriented to make the decentralisation process towards the overall development of rural communities. As a result, the global priority will be inter-disciplinary action and local institutional building to improve capacity for achieving sustainable rural livelihoods.

## Objectives:

- To share knowledge of Decentralised Governance systems in participating countries and Innovative Methods at cutting-edge level of administration;
- To focus on available best practices of good governance in various countries for poverty reduction and delivery of services;
- To highlight technology interventions like Information Technology, e-governance for support of decentralised good governance.



*Field Visit*

With a funding support under grants-in-aid to CIRDAP by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, for the year 2013-14, as a kind regional cooperation gesture for sharing experiences between CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs) of Asia-Pacific, the above mentioned training programme in collaboration with the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) and Non-Aligned Movement for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC). The programme held on 09–18 January 2014 at Hotel Mercure Bali Harvestland Kuta, Bali,

Indonesia. The training programme commenced on 09 January 2014 with the welcome speeches from NAM CSSTC, NIRD and CIRDAP coordinators. Then a Keynote Speech was delivered by Mr. Vijay Kumar Former Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India (GoI) and he inaugurated the training programme.

After the inauguration of the programme Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director a.i, Training Division, CIRDAP, briefed on the programme, overview of proceedings and logistics of the programme. The next session was sharing of experiences about the Decentralised Governance and Delivery of Services – Way to Good Governance among the participants. The participants also presented their country report on the subject.

An important session on “How Central Government to Guarantee Local Government’s Minimum Service Standard” by Dr. Made Suwandi, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Indonesia was conducted. The participants were very keen to about the various aspects of decentralised governance and delivery of services by different government machineries for the rural people. Another session on “Decentralised Governance and Delivery of Services: Lessons Learned from Jembrana District” by Dr. Ida Widianingsih, UNPAD, Indonesia, was very interesting to the participants. There was a lot of discussion with the resource person during the session.

The Course Coordinator from NIRD, Dr. Bhaskar Rao, took an important namely, “Local Governance, Decentralisation and Participatory Planning”. The participants from different CIRDAP member countries were eager to know the decentralised governance system in India, the largest democracy of the world. Dr. Rao answered various kinds of questions from the participants related to decentralised government in India. There was a Group Exercise handled by Dr. Rao on “Delivery of basic services through decentralised governance”. Dr. Bhaskar Rao was also a resource person for the session on “Concept of Convergence and National Employment Guarantee Scheme: Leads to Good Governance”.

The Director General, CIRDAP, Dr. Cecep Effendi was the resource person for the session on “Local Democracy, Decentralised Governance and Public Service Delivery – Indonesian Experiences”. He explained various aspects of democracy, decentralised government and public service delivery in Indonesia.

During the conduct of the training, there was a field visit to National Institute of Local Development (IPDN) at Lombok, NTB Province, Indonesia. The participants were happy to visit IPDN as they gained hands on experience about the local government system of Indonesia.



The valedictory session of the training programme was held on 17 January 2014. Dr. M.V. Rso, IAS, Director General, NIRD, was the chief guest of the valedictory session. Director General, CIRDAP, and the Course Coordinators from CIRDAP and NIRD spoke on the occasion. The programme concluded with distribution of certificates to the participants.

### **CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on Rural Technologies for Inclusive Growth**

It is an accepted fact that technologies had resulted in revolutionary development as could be evident in the case of green revolution, white revolution, yellow revolution, etc. However, technology development for rural areas has followed a tinkering approach, and availability of technological devices for cooking, lighting, water purification, etc on a large scale in rural areas is still a bottleneck. The issue is that in spite of advances made by S&T in various spheres of development, there still exists a gap in the application of technologies to address in a competitive manner the needs of the rural community.

Though a number of government institutions, NGOs and private research institutions generate technologies, most of them do not get to be operationalised or transferred to the target groups. The sad part is that there is also lack of awareness about the existence of these technologies among the rural development functionaries. Rural development through its large network of functionaries and a host of schemes/programmes across different countries, offer an excellent opportunity for the rural technologies to become part of the diffusion process thus enabling inclusive growth. The present programme is an attempt in this direction.

#### **Objectives:**

- To develop awareness among the RD functionaries about the different rural technologies and their relevance in rural development;
- To share and learn from the best practices and products related to rural technologies;
- To develop and foster partnerships and networking among CIRDAP research Centres for utilisation and evaluation of the various technologies for rural development.



CIRDAP – NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on Rural Technologies for Inclusive Growth sponsored by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India was organised during February 18 – 27, 2014 at the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, India. Rural technology have a significant role to apply in improving standard of living of the people living in the rural areas by reducing drudgery, increase in production, reducing costs, etc. NIRD has established Rural Technology Park (RTP), where several rural technologies are displayed, demonstrated and transformed for the benefit of the rural people. Every year rural technology mela (fair) are organised, where rural technology innovators from across the country are invited to exhibit their innovations. This facility of Rural Technology Park need to be shared with the other CIRDAP Member countries, therefore, an international training programme on Rural Technology was designed to share India's experiences in the area of rural technologies and learn from the experiences of other member countries. There were 21 participants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam attended the programme. Country presentations were made by the respective countries. Some of the innovative rural technologies from CMCs are as follows which were shared among the participants:

During the programme the participants visited the Rural Technology Park (RTP) of NIRD, where the rural technology fair was organised and had exposure some of the innovative rural technologies of India. Participants were also visited the National Construction and Building Institute (NCBI), where they were exposed to construction technologies. They also visited Textile Park in Pochoom Palli in Nalgonda district, where different improved technologies of handloom textiles were being provided to the poor weavers to preserve the skill of handloom weaving and pass it on to younger generation were demonstrated to participants. Mr. Subarna Prasad Kapali, Director, The Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N) was invited and he shared Nepal's rural technologies with the participants. A special session on GIS as a tool for rural technology was also included highlighting the GIS applications for rural development.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. Siva Ram, Professor and Head, Centre for Rural Infrastructure (CRI) and Project Director, Rural Technology Park (RTP), NIRD and Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director a.i, Training Division, CIRDAP. Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran made a presentation on Technologies – Transforming Rural Lives in CIRDAP Member Countries. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. M.V. Rao, IAS, Director General, NIRD. During his inaugural address DG, NIRD stressed on the need to learn from the experiences of each other in the field of rural technologies, which can go a long way in improving the livelihoods of the people living in rural areas.

The valedictory speech was delivered by Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP, who informed the participants that CIRDAP is now focusing on SME sector of the rural areas and facilitating transfer of technologies among the CMCs. Agro-processing technologies from India, Indonesia, and Iran are being shared with agriculture-based countries. The training programme concluded with the award of certificates to the participants.

### **CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on ICT Application for Rural Development**

Asian region has travelled a long way in the application of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in various sectors of economy, particularly agriculture, health, education, e-governance etc. The ICT applications implemented in various parts of India, the success stories and Best Practices such as the e-Chopals, e-Seva, Bhoomi, Telemedicine projects, and e-procurement etc. that evolved over the years have become role models in IT initiatives. The application using these tools in the realm of knowledge and information management have helped the general public to a large extent to easily access information on various parameters. In spite of the key challenges pertaining to rules, access method, infrastructure, skills and awareness, coordination etc., some countries, especially India, is trying their best to bring IT services to the doorsteps of the citizens by a single window approach.





*Training in Progress*

To illustrate the community marketing information e-chopal, landholding passbooks in a cluster of 70 villages in Warana district is wired to provide agricultural, medical, educational information and for marketing milk products in Maharashtra State. The Bhoomi project in Karnataka State is helping the farmers to get their land transactions online. Similarly, the community information centres at Kuppam district in Andhra are benefiting rural

communities to seek vital information through these centres alongside creating job opportunities for underemployed youth. This pilot with government Vs citizen interface is enabling the common person to share experiences and encouraging them to avail of quick services. These types of experiments are likely to influence others to move from islands of success to widespread adoption. Therefore, this is a best way of integrating rural areas with globalisation process and making rural people transform lives, communities and as a result improving the economies of nations to achieve the targets set in the MDGs.

India, Malaysia and Thailand in CIRDAP Member Countries have achieved substantial progress in ICT and contributed profoundly to the national development and export of IT enabled services. These models can be shared with other countries in the CIRDAP member Countries. In this context, the Indian ICT experience is useful to its Member Countries.

#### **Objectives:**

- To examine the linkages between policy and practice in development, particularly in the context of ICT application for rural development, among the CMCs, review the current use of the ICT in rural development and to identify the potential areas, where ICT related applications can play an effective role;
- To strengthen the networking mechanism among the Institutions in the region and to address their common rural development issues and promote information sharing for South-South cooperation;
- To showcase, some important case studies on application of the ICT in specific sectors such as health, primary education, agriculture and e-governance for dissemination at the regional level.

CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Application for Rural Development sponsored by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India was organised during March 10–19, 2014 at the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, India. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. M.V. Rao, IAS, Director General, NIRD. While inaugurating the programme he said that India had made great stride in using the ICT for rural development. There are several Government Organisations (GO) and Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) initiatives, which are very successful in all sectors that are education, health, agriculture, environment, land acquisition and record, etc. He urged the participants to adapt some of these good practices on ICT applications for rural development in their own countries for the benefit of people in the rural areas.

Country presentations were made by the respective countries. Some of the innovative rural technologies from CMCs are as follows which were shared among the participants:

The training programme included presentations on effective application of ICT in the sectors like education, viz., e-governance by Dr. Piyush Gupta, Associate Vice-President and Manager, Capacity Building and Knowledge Management, NISG, monitoring rural development programmes by using MIS for National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) by Col. S.S. Rao, General Manager, TCS, Hyderabad. Participants were also exposed to InDG Experiences and Vikas Pedia Portal, which is a development portal, developed by CIDAK and also to the various ICT interventions for women and children tracking immunisation and pregnancy related information.

Field visits were arranged to National Informatics Centre (NIC), where administration of ITC projects and data centre were done. Participants also visited Bangalore City Silicon Valley where they had exposure to Bhumi project (computerisation of land records) best practices of Government of Karnataka and Bangalore One, Citizen Service Centre working successfully on private and public partnership mode. They also visited the Narayana Hridalaya, where telemedicine for remote is being practiced. The field visit culminated to visit to C-DAC, which housed the super computer of India – Param Youth.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. P. Satish Chandra, Head In-charge of CIT, NIRD and Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director a.i., Training Division, CIRDAP. Dr. Vasanthi made a presentation on ICT Innovation in Health – Info-Lady in Bangladesh. The innovative Rice Knowledge Management Portal developed by the Rice Research Institute of India and presented by Dr. Shaik N. Meera, who also extended his expertise to any of the CIRDAP member countries, who willing to develop similar portal in their countries.

The valedictory speech was delivered by Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP. The training programme concluded with the award of certificates to the participants.

### **CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Workshop-cum-Training Programme on Food and Nutritional Security Assurance through Efficient Response and Technology Management**

Concerns over food security have existed throughout history. There are historical evidences of granaries being in use over 10,000 years ago, with central authorities in Civilisations including Ancient China and Ancient Egypt being known to release food from storage in times of famine. Yet it was only at the 1974 World Food Conference that the term 'food security' was established as a formal concept. Originally, food security was understood to apply at the national level, with a state being food secure when there was sufficient food to "sustain a steady expansion of food consumption and to offset fluctuations in production and prices". A new definition emerged at 1996 World Food Summit; this time with the emphasis being on individuals enjoying food security, rather than the nation. According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), food security "exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life".

Food security has following dimensions:

**Availability of food:** This means the food production within the country, food imports and previous years' stock stored in government granaries.

**Accessibility of food:** This means food should be within reach of every person.

**Affordability:** This means that every individual has enough resources to buy sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet one's dietary needs.

Thirteen years ago, world leaders came together to adopt the United Nations Millennium Declaration. They committed their nations to a new global partnership to reduce extreme poverty and hunger, setting out a series of targets to be met by 2015, which have become known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These goals express the world's commitment to improve the lives of billions of people and to address



*Workshop in progress*

development challenges. Under MDG 1, which aims to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, the world sought to halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. With hardly



two years remaining, 38 countries have reached this target, 18 of which have also achieved the even more stringent goal, established during the 1996 World Food Summit (WFS) in Rome, of halving the absolute number of hungry in the same time period. These successes demonstrate that, with political commitment, effective institutions, good policies relating to food production, transport, handling, storage and distribution, a comprehensive approach and adequate levels of investment, we can win the fight against hunger and poverty, a necessary first step to arrive at the other development milestones set by the MDGs. As with every edition, the 2013 Report of The State of Food Insecurity in the World updates progress towards the MDG and WFS hunger goals: globally, by region and by individual country. For developing regions as a whole, the latest assessment suggests that further progress has been made towards the 2015 MDG target. The same progress, assessed against the more ambitious WFS goal, obviously appears much more modest. A total of 842 million people, or 12 percent of the world's population, were experiencing chronic hunger in 2011–13, 26 million fewer than the number reported last year and down from 868 million in 2010–12.



*Field Visit*

Development, failed agriculture market regulation and the lack of anti-dumping mechanisms engenders much of the world's food scarcity and malnutrition. As of late 2007, export restrictions and panic buying, US Dollar depreciation, diversion of food cultivable land for bio-fuels and animal feed grain, world oil prices at above \$100 a barrel, rising population, impact of climate change, loss of agricultural land to residential and commercial purposes and growing consumer demand in China and India are pushing up the price of grain. However, the role of some of these factors is under debate. Food and nutritional security is a complex area, standing at the intersection of many disciplines.

The right to food is one of the most basic rights of humankind. However, hunger remains unacceptably widespread, as many prevailing systems of food production are simply unsustainable. Further, the most vulnerable people cannot access enough of the major macronutrients (carbohydrates, fats and protein) much less nutritious food. Perhaps another billion are thought to suffer from 'hidden hunger', in which important micronutrients (such as vitamins and minerals) are missing from their diet, with consequent risks of physical and mental impairment. Under-nutrition remains one of the world's most serious but least addressed socio-economic and health concerns. The human and socio-economic costs of under-nutrition are enormous, falling hardest on the poorest, especially on women and children. The millions of the world's people, who have experienced under-nutrition early in life, face many challenges as they grow up. They encounter an increased risk of illness and death when young, experience difficulties at school since most of mental development of children takes place between 1 to 5 years of age, and are often not able to make a full contribution to the social and economic development of their households, communities and nations when they become adults. Malnutrition is the underlying cause of 35% of childhood deaths, which are more than 2.5 million deaths per year. For all developing countries, nearly one-third or 165 million children younger than 5 years are stunted (low height-for-age) and there are 52 million acutely malnourished children globally, and 29 million of these are severe acutely malnourished.

The FAO identified the four pillars of food security as availability, access, utilisation, and stability. The United Nations (UN) recognised the Right to Food in the Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, and has since noted that it is vital for the enjoyment of all other rights.

The 1996 World Summit on Food Security noted, "food should not be used as an instrument for political and economic pressure". According to the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable

The world's population, set to reach 9 billion by 2050, agricultural production will need to increase by 70% in order to meet demand. Climate change adds a new dimension of this challenge as it is one of the key drivers of change affecting the food system and contributing to rising food prices. It leads to changes in growing seasons, rainfall patterns, and the increased frequency of extreme events such as droughts and floods. It has been estimated by the United Nations Environment Programme that up to 25 per cent of world food production could be lost by 2050 as a result of climate change, water scarcity and land degradation) and timely supply of high quality inputs.

Changes in food production, together with other factors, could affect food prices, which would affect the ability of poor households to access food and could reduce dietary diversity. Decreased water availability and quality in some areas could result in increased health and sanitation problems such as diarrheal disease, which, together with changes in vector-borne disease patterns, has the potential to increase malnutrition, and negatively affect food utilisation.

Extreme weather effects disrupt the stability of food production and access as well as people's livelihoods. Climate change could increase the prices of major crops in some regions. For the most vulnerable people, lower agricultural output would also mean lower income. Under these conditions, the poorest people, who already use most of their income on food (70 to 80 per cent, sometime even up to 90 per cent), would have to sacrifice additional income to meet their nutritional requirements.

### **Food Security in India:**

Green Revolution was started with an aim to achieve food security in India. Since the launch of the Green Revolution in mid 1960s, there has not been a single case of famine in spite of adverse weather conditions in several years. Food grain production increased from about 70 million tonnes in 1960-61 to about 254 million tonnes in 2012-13.

The state interventions in India in 70s in the form of 'Small Farmer Development Agency (SFDA.)' and 'Marginal Farmer and Agriculture Labour Agency (MFAL)' and the Centrally Sponsored Programmes like 'Desert Development Programme (DDP)', 'Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)', and 'Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)', 'Integrated Scheme of Oil Seeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)', 'Initiatives for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion (INSIMP)', 'Rasthriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)- National Agricultural Development Scheme' etc reflect the concerns of the country to achieve more broad based and inclusive agricultural growth. The promotion of 'Integrated Farming Systems' concept in the 80s was another step in this direction to ensure livelihood security to millions of marginal and small producers in the primary sector and reduce rural poverty.

The instruments of India's food policy in the late 60s have laid foundation for modernisation of its agriculture and provided the needed incentive framework for the rapid growth of the two major cereals viz., wheat and rice contributing to near food security at the aggregate level. However, these achievements are at the cost of other grains and also widened the inequalities between irrigated and rain fed regions as well among the farm size classes. Several measures to strengthen and diversify the smallholder agriculture through credit and technology support have yielded positive outcomes in terms of production of over 250 million tonnes of food grains, rapid increase in the share of livestock products, fisheries, horticulture and forestry. Despite these remarkable gains witnessed in agriculture, the small farmers are confronted with weather, technology, credit, inputs and market risks. On the other hand, the poor consumer is affected by high levels of (food price) inflation and low purchasing power. The socially unacceptable levels of hunger, malnutrition among children and under nourishment among adult women and prevalence of high levels of morbidity and mortality confirm that linkages of growth and welfare are weak in the context of India. The development cannot be sustained unless these linkages are strengthened and made mutually reinforcing. While the 'New Economic Reforms (NER)' have opened new vistas to agricultural growth and food security, the country's experiences are mixed. The emphasis on rapid and inclusive agriculture growth since 2000 and the 'National Food Security



Act (NFSA, 2013)' unambiguously point out that we have to go a long way to realise our twin inter-related goals. In a way, one is compelled to infer that the outcomes of the food policy have caused distortions and dampened the prospects of inclusive agricultural growth.

Policy interventions to improve food security need to include nutrition-sensitive interventions in agriculture and the food system as a whole, as well as in public health and education, especially of women. Nutrition-focused social protection may need to target the most vulnerable, including pregnant women, adolescent girls and children. Policies aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity and increasing food availability, especially when smallholders are targeted, can achieve hunger reduction even where poverty is widespread. When they are combined with social protection and other measures that increase the incomes of poor families, they can have an even more positive effect and spur rural development, by creating vibrant markets and employment opportunities, resulting in equitable economic growth. Not surprisingly, the specific country experiences suggest that high poverty levels generally go hand in hand with high levels of undernourishment and resultant weakness and inability to do manual work- so important for their livelihoods. But undernourishment can also be more severe than poverty, especially when both are at high levels. As food is one of the most income-responsive of all basic necessities, higher incomes can therefore expedite reductions in undernourishment.

In this context, CIRDAP in collaboration with the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, India organised International Workshop on Food and Nutritional Security Assurance through Efficient Resource and Technology Management at NIRD, Hyderabad during 19-25 May 2014. There were thirteen participants from Bangladesh, India, Myanmar and Nepal participated the workshop-cum-training. The programme had two components viz., workshop and training. There were renowned experts from India, Nepal and Sri Lanka presented papers in the workshop and the participants and delegates deliberated on the papers. The workshop came out with recommendations. The training part of the programme held from 21-25 May 2014. The workshop part had the following themes, which were covered by the experts invited to the workshop:

Theme 1: Global Perspectives and Challenges in Food and Nutritional Security

Theme 2: Farming Systems and Production Technologies

Theme 3: Dairy and Fishery for Food and Nutritional Security

Theme 4: Rural Livelihoods and Food Security

Theme 5: Access to Food

Theme 6: Guaranteed Employment and Food Security

Theme 7: Post Harvest Technology and Fortified Food

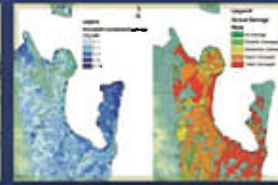
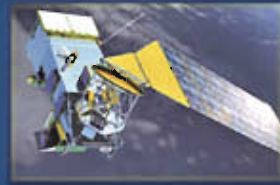
Theme 8: Climate Change Challenges in Food and Nutritional Security

Dr. S.M. Ilyas, Programme Director and Head, Centre for Post Graduate Studies (CPGS), NIRD and Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director a.i., Training Division, CIRDAP coordinated the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. M.V. Rao, IAS, Director General, NIRD while Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP gave the valedictory address and interacted with the participants.

### **CIRDAP–NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on ‘Application of Geo-Informatics System (GIS) for Mitigation and Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Management**

GIS is proving as a very powerful spatial technology tool for understanding earth features, planning for resource optimisation, generation of decision alternatives, real-time monitoring and a host of related work, which has great potential in disaster management. The GIS is an accessibility, affordability and ease of use tool which has been applied widely in various projects and programmes in several countries by GO, NGO, Research Organisations and International Bodies in disaster management.

# CIRDAP - DAR - NIRD Collaborative In Application of Geo-Info for Mitigation and Adaptation and Dis



30 June - 09 July 2014  
National Computer Center  
Diliman, Quezon City  
Philippines

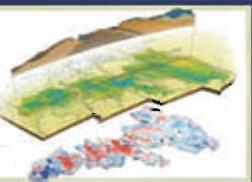


Centre for Integrated  
Rural Development  
for Asia and the Pacific





# International Training Programme on Geomatics System (GIS) Disaster Risk Reduction Management



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Department of  
Agrarian Reform  
PHILIPPINES



National Institute for  
Rural Development  
INDIA





In the recent past in India and some other Asian countries, Geographic Information System (GIS) has emerged as an effective tool in designing rural development programmes, with focus on sustainable poverty reduction and environmental conservation. The recent trend is to move towards convergence of Remote Sensing, Geographic Information System and Global Positioning System for better managing the natural resources and the environment for achieving economic and social goals. With rapid advances, these technologies are now widely accessible at affordable costs. The GIS, has already created an enormous impact on virtually every field of activity that requires management and analysis of spatially distributed data.

CIRDAP has been sharing the rich experience, best practices, process methodologies and demonstrative models designed and developed in India, to its member partners in Asia and Pacific and recently the member countries have participated in such programmes held at NIRD, Hyderabad, India, sponsored by the Ministry of Rural Development of the Government of India. The evaluation of earlier programmes suggested more such programmes for the benefits of developing countries. The policy support given by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India is useful for other countries to study its policies and programme implementation.

### Objectives of the Training Programme:

#### Specific:

- To study the Geo-informatics Best Practices, Pilots, Projects and Programmes in India, and to identify the potential areas where the GIS applications can play a key role in CIRDAP Member Countries, from India's experiences;
- To exchange ideas and experiences in formulating and implementing the GIS technologies, assess the feasibility of meeting the regional needs based on existing manpower, software, hardware and data availability and assess the training needs and resources requirements at the CIRDAP country level.



*The Secretary, H.E. Mr. Virgilio de los Reyes, Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Government of the Philippines*

#### General:

- To promote effective networking among the relevant institutions in the countries of the region and to address common challenges, mitigation and issues and promote information sharing and for South-South cooperation;
- To present case studies on application of the Geo-informatics in rural development, natural resources, disaster management and governance and disseminate the same at the regional level; and
- To strengthen capacity building efforts of member countries through training to accelerate application of Geo informatics application in the region.

In view of the above, the programme was held at the National Computer Centre, Manila, Philippines. There were 17 participants from 12 CIRDAP member countries in this programme. The programme was inaugurated by the Secretary, H.E. Mr. Virgilio de los Reyes, Department of Agrarian Reform





(DAR), Government of the Philippines. H.E. Mr. Virgilio de los Reyes expressed his happiness for selecting the Philippines as the venue to hold an international training on 'Application of Geo-Informatics System (GIS) for Mitigation and Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Management'. He highlighted the crucial role of technology in accelerating rural development and poverty alleviation. GIS/GPS and remote sensing are being used extensively by many countries now

in the area of disaster risk reduction management. He strongly urged the need for GIS as a tool to bring about social disasters by using its application for rural development. DG, CIRDAP, Dr. Cecep Effendi, in his speech thanked the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Government of the Philippines, for agreeing to host this training programme in the Philippines and thereby providing an opportunity to the participants to gain from the experiences of the Philippines in using GIS for disaster management specially the case of prediction of typhoon, floods, etc. H.E. Ms Rosalina Bistoyong, Under Secretary, DAR, Ms. Susana Evangelista-Leones, Director, BARBD, DAR also spoke on the occasion. Dr. Madhava Rao, Programme Coordinator from NIRD gave his overview of the need for the programme and the contents. Director a.i., Training Division, CIRDAP, welcomed the distinguished delegates and participants in the inaugural session.

### **Disaster Risk and Exposure Assessment for Mitigation (DREAM)**

#### **Typhoons and Floods Paralyze and Hold Bank Progress**

The Philippines is the third most disaster-prone country in the world, among the most frequently visited by natural disasters over the last three decades. At least 19 cyclones or typhoons visit the country every year, causing widespread floods and damages, paralyzing large segments of the population, and setting off all progress and national development. In recent memory is Typhoon Pablo that hit the country in December 2012 claiming more than 1,000 lives and damaging infrastructure and agriculture worth Php37.0 billion.

#### **Dream and Vision**

In an era of climate change, natural events such as typhoons and floods are expected to Exacerbate happening more frequently and with increasing intensity. Island-states like the Philippines, with previous track record for disaster, will be among the most hard hit.

The nationwide Disaster Risk and Exposure Assessment for Mitigation (DREAM) program works at the interface of science, technology and social science, involving people and communities in disaster preparedness planning and response, to better prepare our country and people for natural disasters. The Program taps on state-of-the-art tools of science for flood hazard modelling and is implemented by the UP Training Centre for Applied Geodesy and Photogrammetry. Our DREAM and vision is a more resilient Philippines, with people and communities enabled to rise above disasters.

The Technical Session begun with a presentation by Dr. Madhava Rao on Geo-informatics - Innovative and best practices in Rural Development. Thereafter Dr. R.R. Hermon made presentation on Basics, Process and Application of Geographical Information Systems. Hands-on training followed this on open source GIS software that is called Quantum GIS.

The participants also had hands on training on GPS tools, data up gradation, downloading, interfacing and overlaying on Google Maps. Besides these, three sessions on Early Warning System, climate change and disaster, landslides and earthquake, flood management, tsunami, etc.

The highlight of the programme was field visit to Disaster Risk and Exposure Assessment for Mitigation (DREAM) project. The objective of the project was to generate finer scale flood hazard maps and inundation model to be used six hourly warning. The project surveyed 18 major river basins prone to flood, using airborne LIDAR. 3D maps were used for flood simulation for different rainfall events.

The participants were taken to Marikina City risk reduction unit, where they saw real time monitoring of the Marikina river fitted with sensors to warn/alert people of the impending floods. The volunteers constantly monitor the level of river to provide early warning for evacuation. This unit was located in a full-fledged health centre. The participants visited National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) surveys and maps the land and water resource of the Philippines. Its main mandate is to provide both public and private sectors with map making services as well as geographic and resource information. After this they visited PHILVOLCS, which is a centre located in the University of the Philippines. It predicts the occasion of volcanic eruption and earthquakes and geotectonic phenomenon, determines how eruption and earthquakes occur and also the areas likely to be affected, exploits the positive aspects of volcanic rain in furtherance of the socio-economic development efforts of the government. Generates sufficient data for forecasting appropriate disaster preparedness and mitigation plans. A visit was arranged to the Bureau of Social and Water Management, where presentations were made on Agromet-Cum-Climate Change project by Engr. Pablo M. Montalla, Vulnerability and Suitability Assessment for Philippine Rural Development Programme Prioritisation by Dr. Dante E. Margate and on Land Degradation Assessment in Dry lands by Ms. Cathlyn Joy P. Dela Torre.

As this programme was held in Manila, Philippines, there were two presentations by the resource persons from the Philippines. The presentations were on Geo-informatics and Best Practices: Hazard Mapping, Philippine Geoportal, "One Nation, One Map Project" by NAMRIA Administrator and on "Geo-informatics and Best Practices in Soil and Water Management" by Dir. Silvino Q. Tejada, Director, BSWMDr.

The programme concluded with participants' evaluation of the course and expressing their satisfaction in learning GIS applications for disaster management. Under Secretary H.E. Ms Rosalina Bistoyong distributed the certificates and gave valedictory address.

The programme was coordinated by Dr V Madhava Rao, Professor and Head, Centre on Geoinformatics Application in Rural Development (CGARD), National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, India and Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director a.i., Training Division, CIRDAP.

### **Regional Workshop on "One Tambon One Product and Sufficiency Economy Philosophy to CIRDAP member countries**

**One Tambon One Product (OTOP)** is a local entrepreneurship stimulus programme designed by Thailand's former Prime Minister during 2001-2006. The programme aimed to support the locally made and marketed products of each Thai tambon(sub district). Drawing its inspiration from Japan's successful One Village One Product (OVOP) programme, the OTOP programme encourages village communities to improve the local products' quality and marketing, selecting one superior product from each tambon to receive formal branding as its "starred OTOP product". It provides both a local and national stage to promote these products. OTOP products include a large array of local products,



including traditional handicrafts, cotton and silk garments, pottery, fashion accessories, household items and food. “One Tambon One Product” is a successful programme in Thailand.

There are 36,000 OTOP groups on the country, each having between 30 to 3,000 members, “OTOP has helped spread income to many people in the villages. It has allowed people producing handicrafts to feel they are part of the global economy.”

One of the mechanisms to promote and support the development of Thai OTOP products is the Product Champion. Besides setting up OTOP communities and Small to Medium Enterprises (SME), a seminar called “Smart OTOP” has now provided more than 26,600 participants advice in upgrading their skills and knowledge to development better products. The number of participants increases each year. A rating system for OTOP products is followed, the highest being five stars. Consumers can be sure of the quality of anything awarded this level. There is an annual exhibition of products called “OTOP midyear”. Different regions are noted for specific types of products.

One Tambon One Product is also the way to alleviate the poverty in the community level. The One Tambon One Product was initiated by the government. It is hoped that revenue earned by communities would further increase if support were given on a sustainable basis. The objective of One Tambon One Product is aimed to allow people living in communities to use their skills in manufacturing products while the government and the private sector would render assistance on developing the products and exploring the markets in order to create jobs, income and strengthening the communities.

“Sufficiency Economy” is the philosophy initiated by His Majesty the King of Thailand since 1974. It is a philosophy that suggests the guideline for the populace how to lead their life in proper way by means of moderation, reasonableness and risk management. His Majesty has called upon the countrymen to practice sufficiency economy in their lives to fulfill basic needs and use it as a tool to get through the economic crisis due to globalisation and various changes. Such a practice could be used to strengthen the efficiency in running the businesses.

His Majesty the King’s projects gave emphasis to Small-scale agriculture; Appropriate farm technology; Sustainable use of water resources; Conservation; Flood and drought mitigation; and Integrated rural development projects.

In addition, His Majesty has extended Royal Patronage and action support to a range of social causes in health and wellbeing of children, combating iodine deficiency, improving access to formal and informal education, etc. Sufficiency Economy was widely adopted in Thailand with importance to responsible consumption, diversification of household production, and appropriate conduct at all levels – household, community, business and government. Through thousands of Royal development projects, His Majesty has made an invaluable contribution to global development discourse and was appropriately documented by UNDP. Since knowledge and innovation are the backbone of any development effort, His Majesty has created centres for development, with emphasis on research and experimentation.



*Workshop Participants at OTOP Centre*

It is in this context, CIRDAP and the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Government of Thailand, desired to disseminate the success cases of OTOP and Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy in Thailand to all CIRDAP member countries. Since exchange of information is both ways, CIRDAP countries also presented success cases from their respective countries.

The Objectives of the programme were:

- To understand and appreciate the philosophy of Sufficiency Economy, Royal Initiative projects and One Tambon One Product to CIRDAP member countries;
- To discuss and compare other such successful projects in the region;
- To take the philosophy of sufficiency economy and One Tambon One Product to all, so as to make it a replicable model for integrated rural development in Asia and the Pacific region; and
- To suggest measures to further improve these programmes.



*Interaction with an innovative Farmer*

The programme was held during 15-18 July 2014 at Bangkok with field visit to Saraburi Province, Thailand. The programme was attended by 15 participants from Lao PDR, Malaysia and Thailand. The Government of Thailand provided local hospitality, which included board, lodging and local transport. The workshop begun with the inaugural session presided over by Ms. Narumol Sanguanvong, Assistant Secretary General, National FAO Committee, Bureau of Foreign Agricultural Affairs (BOFAA), Ministry of

Agriculture and Cooperatives, Government of Thailand. Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director a.i., Training Division, CIRDAP welcomed the participants from CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs) and thanked the Government of Thailand for organising and sponsoring the workshop to enable sharing the best practices of Thailand among the CMCs. She briefly outlined the salient features of OTOP and Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy. She mentioned that this workshop will also provide opportunity for the CMCs to share their programmes which are similar to OTOP. Ms. Narumol while inaugurating the workshop thanked CIRDAP for ensuring the participants of CMCs for the workshop. She mentioned that OTOP is very popular programme initiated in the beginning of 21st century primarily with the objective of promoting local entrepreneurship. She also said that Philosophy of Sufficiency programme has been in implementation in Thailand for several decades now by the initiative of His Majesty's The King of Thailand. She said that the government of Thailand is eager to share its experiences in the field of rural development with the other CMCs and assured that this programme will be held next year also.

The inaugural session was followed by the country presentations with Malaysian delegate making the first presentation on Potential and Opportunities in Fish-based Products. He highlighted the successful case of Ace Front Sdn. Bhd. a visionary seafood company which has many activities, such as produce frozen fish and shrimp and value added seafood product located in Parak. The key success of this company which begun on a very small way and expanded to become an export oriented company is its emphasis on high quality to promote customer loyalty. The participant from Lao PDR made a presentation on organic herbal tea production in Oudomxay province in Lao PDR. This activity in Houytim village has 138 family members. The delegate from Vietnam made presentation on Big Fields for Rice Farming - Expectation Increased Income for Small Scale Farm Producers in Vietnam, wherein she presented the case of An Giang Plant Protection Joint Stock Company - Vĩnh Bình Processing of Exported Rice Factory, which is based on contract farming. Farmers are provided all the inputs by this big company and the farmers have to sell their produce to the company at fixed price. The benefits for the farmers are that they are provided with fertilisers and pesticides and other technical support during



the crop and provided free of charges drying and warehouse facilities. Companies also provide facilities for packaging the rice. The farmers have to use registered seeds and take guidance from technical engineers to ensure high production. Farmers have to record production costs on field diary.

The Thai delegate Ms. Pidsinee Jirawat, Director of Professional Agriculture and Cooperative office made presentation on Local Scholar Network Learning Centres Development Project (Prach Chao Bann Centres Development Project), which is the first step of New Theory. The project supports farmers for learning by doing and training to transfer knowledge, methodology and share experiences based on sustainable agricultural development by following The King's New Theory of agricultural development based on Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy. The farmers learn and practice centres are called "Prach Chao Bann". The output of the project is that the trained farmers switch from mono-crop to integrated farming. The other advantages are reduction of production cost, sufficient household consumption, safe food, conservation and preservation of environment, production of local products and making the farmers self-reliant.

In the post-lunch session, the participants visited Saraburi OTOP Complex where a presentation was made on "History and Operation of Saraburi OTOP Complex". The complex was established in 2010 and used as a venue of OTOP product display as well as distribution and administration. It is also venue for the products' standard development. The complex also has meeting rooms and ICT facilities. The Saraburi Province has provided support to OTOP from 2002 onwards. OTOP Committee at provincial level with the Province's Governor as the Chairman and Provincial Community Development Director as the Secretary works with several other Committees to oversee and manage Saraburi OTOP Complex, which has made Saraburi OTOP very popular among both the Thai's as well as foreigners.

On Day two the participants were taken to Nong Noo Sufficiency Economy Learning Centre where they interacted with an innovative farmer Mr. Boon Lue Tao Kaew. He has developed a bio-fertiliser and fermented biological water using his own local wisdom. He has in fact called 'Doctor of Soil' in the district. The farmer produces fertiliser from raw milk, bio-mixture and sells at a reasonable price. Being chemical free, the bio-fertiliser is environmental friendly. He also grows mushroom, rice straw mushroom, Sajor-Cajid mushroom, makes his own charcoal raised mainly in his farm. He produces herbal insect repellent, snail egg hormone that attracted the participants.

Through this field visit to Saraburi OTOP Complex and Nong Noo Sufficiency Economy Learning Centre, the participants gained complete knowledge on the two best practices of Thailand, i.e., OTOP and Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy. The programme was concluded by the participants giving a positive feedback on the learning outcome of the programme and distribution of certificates.

### **ASEAN Forum to Promote Best Practices in Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Development**

The Ministry of Rural and Regional Development (MRRD), Government of Malaysia organised the ASEAN Forum to Promote Best Practices in Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Development from 24-27 August 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The forum was jointly sponsored by Malaysia and the ASEAN Secretariat. The forum's main objective was to share Malaysia's best practices on rural infrastructure development through capacity building discussions and on-site project visits. This forum also aimed to initiate cooperation for knowledge sharing and networking amongst government officials, practitioners and stakeholders of ASEAN Member States (AMS) and ASEAN Plus Three Countries (APTCs).

This forum was participated from AMS are Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Singapore, who shared their experiences on rural infrastructure development. From CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs) only Bangladesh and Fiji participated. Director General, and Director a.i., Training Division, CIRDAP, also participated in this forum to understand and share the experiences of this forum. The forum provided an opportunity to share and reflect on country level initiatives, progress and linkages in efforts to develop rural areas through infrastructure.

The forum begun with the overview of “Socio-economic Development in Malaysia” by Economic Planning Unit, Malaysia and “Malaysia’s Rural Infrastructure Development – Journey after Independence” by Mr. Ahmad Zahidi bin Awang, Ministry of Rural and Regional Development, Malaysia.

The forum comprised of three main sessions as follows:

- Infrastructure as a Contributor to Rural Economic Development.
- Exploring Community Engagement/Involvement from the Community to Develop Rural Infrastructure.
- Malaysian Innovation on Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Development – Breakthroughs and Challenges.

Under the first session, there were three presentations by three panelists, which are follows:

- “Development of Urban-Rural Infrastructure in Thailand: From Core to Periphery” by Dr. Thongchai Roachanakanan, Ministry of Interior, Thailand.
- “Grassroots Participatory Budgeting (formerly bottom up budgeting): A Philippine Experiment” by Mdm. Maritona Victa Labajo,, National Anti-Poverty Programme (NAPC), Office of the President, Republic of the Philippines.
- “New Rural Development in Vietnam: Infrastructure Development and Resources Mobilisation: Achievements, Difficulties and Challenges” by Dr. Van Cuong Dang, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam.

Under the second session there were three presentations by three panelists which are as follows:

- “Challenges Faced with Rural Communities with regard to Implementation of Rural Electrification in Sarawak and Measures taken to Overcome those Challenges” by Ir. Lensus Met, Sarawak Energy Berhad, Malaysia.
- “Developing Sustainable Community Environment for FELDA Community Environment for FELDA Community through Public Participation Program by Dr. Mohd. Hisyam Bin Rasidi, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia.
- “Social Service Offices – Delivering Localised Assistance to Vulnerable Communities in Singapore” by Mdm. Ida Iryanee Nooraman, Ministry of Social and Family Development, Singapore.

Under the third session, there were six presentations by six panelists which are as follows:

- “e-Bario by Dr. Alvin Yeo Wee, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Malaysia.
- “TNB Challenges and Experiences in Construction of Micro Grid Connected Solar Hybrid System at RPS Kemar, Gerik Perak” by Mr. Mohd. Tamrin bin Tajudin, Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Malaysia.
- “Alternative Road Development Building Techniques – Soil Stabiliser by Ir. Abdul Motalif bin Abdul Hameed, Public Works Department, Ministry of Works, Malaysia.
- “Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Programme (RSP): Contributing to the Enhancement of Rural Population’s Quality through the Provision of Basic Amenities” by Mr. Engku Azman Tuan Mat, Ministry of Health, Malaysia.



- “Groundwater Filtration Systems” by Mr. Sulong Enjop, Mineral and Geoscience Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia.
- “Urban Stormwater Manage Manual for Malaysia: A Nexus Approach to Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Development and the 2-G Control” by Ir. Abdullah bin Isnin, Department of Irrigation and Drainage, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia.

The above sessions were followed by field visit to Cypark Resources Berhad (CRB) which an integrated environmental engineering and technology provider located in Pajam, Nilai, Negeri Sembilan. Cypark is transforming dump sites and environmental bane to an economic and environmental boon as the *raison d’être* of business. Furthermore, they have taken their business a step further by venturing into renewable sector. It has also transformed the restored landfill in Pajam into an integrated renewable energy park which also an entry point under the nation’s Economic Transformation Programme. This Pajam Solar Park has been awarded by the Malaysian Book of Records as the largest solar park in Malaysia.

The most critical goal of landfill remediation is to protect human health and the environment by eliminating airborne vectors, contamination of land and water, air pollution and a host of other problems caused by open dumping. The ultimate aim is to return land back to community in a form that will benefit the environment and the community.

Landfill remediation is a complex, scientific and engineering rehabilitation process that not only brings about environmental but also economic transformation. Through their extensive environmental engineering expertise and experience, and with a broad spectrum of innovative technologies, the unsightly, degraded and offensive dump sites have been restored into green and healthy lands that have economic and social value.

As an environmental technology and engineering specialist, Cypark combines technologies and engineering proficiency, with high-end research and development, to develop systems specifically for restoring brown fields like the contaminated Land Assessment Remediation and Information System (COLARIS), Sustainable Environmental Restoration (SER) and Groundwater Assessment Remediation and Information System (GARIS). Leveraging the synergy from restoring landfills to the creation of renewal energy has placed Cypark at the forefront of sustainable development and green generation.

#### **Training Programme on Renewable Energy: Micro Hydro Power for Rural Development**

Rural development in developing countries has been given high priority. Programmes to empower rural communities have been in place. Infrastructure such as roads, bridges and electricity have been improved to support socio-economic activities. However, the governments are still facing problem in providing electricity to the whole people.

Demand for electricity is substantially increasing in line with the increasing population number, the growing industry and expansion of housing complex. Anyhow, people living in some remote areas still do not have access to electricity. Governments’ capacity to supply electricity to their people is limited due to budget shortage, insufficient power plant capacity and other factors. One of the solutions to this problem is micro hydro energy that is relatively cheap, sustainable and appropriate for small communities.

The Government of Indonesia (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources) in cooperation with the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC), in support of the Inter-Church Organisation for Development Cooperation (ICCO Foundation) and the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the

Pacific (CIRDAP) shared experiences with developing countries through Training Programme on Renewable Energy: Micro Hydro Power for Rural Development.

The training programme was conducted from 22 to 29 September 2014 in Ibis Hotel, Surabaya. Field studies were conducted at the Micro Hydro Power Plant of Kalimaron in Seloliman Village of Mojokerto District.

The participants were requested to present their respective country papers on the first session. Eight Training Modules were shared in the Class and Field Sessions, namely: (1) Introduction to Renewable Energy; (2) Technical Engineering of Micro Hydro Power (MHP); (3) Financial Aspect of MHP; (4) Social and Economic Aspects of MHP; (5) Productive Use of Electricity; (6) Basic Knowledge of MHP; (7) Sustainability Aspect of MHP; and (8) Successful Case of MHP Plant of Kalimaron in Seloliman Village.

On the concluding session the participants also prepared and presented their Action Plans to be implemented in their respective countries when they are back home.

Total participant was 18 persons from 10 developing countries, namely: Cambodia, Cuba, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, and Vietnam. There are 2 persons from Cuba and South Africa as well.

The participants were from the government institutions, universities and state enterprises working on energy-related activities.

#### **Objectives:**

- The objective of the training programme is to provide participants with basic knowledge of micro hydro power and its implementation to support rural development.

The training programme covered the following subjects:

- a. Introduction to Renewable Energy;
  - b. Technical Engineering of Micro Hydro Power (MHP);
  - c. Financial Aspect of MHP;
  - d. Social and Economic Aspects of MHP;
  - e. Productive Use of Electricity;
  - f. Basic Knowledge of MHP;
  - g. Sustainability Aspect of MHP; and
  - h. Successful Case of MHP Plant of Kalimaron in Seloliman Village.
- The criteria of successful achievement are as follows:
    - a. participant's expectations were met;
    - b. training subjects delivered and discussed were relevant and clearly understood;
    - c. field studies enriched participants with technical aspects of the subjects concerned; and
    - d. participants could prepare action plans to be implemented post training.

#### **Outputs:**

The actual outputs are Action Plans prepared by participants on country basis. They also indicated what internal and external assistance to be anticipated.





*Field study at the Micro Hydro Power Plant of Kalimaron in Indonesia*

### **Expectations and Evaluation:**

Before the training sessions started, all participants were requested to express their expectations in written form using the form prepared by the Committee. Their expectations were compiled by subject of concerns and openly discussed on the last session. They all together checked whether their expectations were met or not. There were also post-class and post-field evaluations by subject. Overall evaluation was also made before the Closing Session.

Based on the percentage of met expectations (97.1.00%), we may conclude that the participants are satisfied with the training programmes they participated.

*[As reference, the scoring range is classified as follows: 81-100% met is satisfied; 51-80% met is Good; 26-50% met is Sufficient; and 0-25% met is Failed]*

### **Recommendations:**

Following is the conclusion and recommendation for further anticipation:

The overall implementation of the training programme on renewable energy: micro hydro power for rural development has been well implemented, both substantially and logistically. However, there are some feedbacks from the participants expressed during the overall evaluation that could be accommodated in future similar training, as follows:

Despite the training subjects have been considered appropriate, it could be enriched with supporting references from other countries that have similar cases.

Technical exercises at field site might be added with other instruments which are not complicated.

Since the field study is not merely on technical matters, it is suggested to extend more days at field site to observe and practice relevant field works related to social, institutional and economic development.

There is also strong recommendation to conduct another similar training with considering the feedbacks from participants. In this regard, NAM CSSTC and the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources instantly identify another best practice of community-based micro hydro power development that also generates value added to local community. Potential plants are located in West Sumatera, South Sulawesi and Lombok. These three sites should be assessed at field level before they are selected.

## **International Training on Renewable Energy: Biogas for Community Development**

In many cultures - especially the poor - women and children are assigned to do the cooking and household chores. They become reliant on traditional forms of fossil fuels and natural resources such as coal and firewood and collecting them is a daily routine which isn't only time consuming but energy draining. The use of traditional fuel generating processes while being exposed to smoke on a daily basis makes them susceptible to respiratory tract infection and eye disease.

Individual biogas systems are already benefitting many households in developing countries, such as in Nepal, India, China, Indonesia and elsewhere. Biogas technology brings a lot of benefits, including contributing toward eradication of poverty and providing greater food security. The utilisation of biogas will greatly affect health conditions of local communities, open new employment opportunities, and also affect the local economy. Although the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) do not specifically target the energy sector, indirectly biogas technology undoubtedly has a positive impact on the fulfilment of MDGs in developing countries.

With reference to the successful biogas energy development in many areas spread out in Indonesia, the Government of Indonesia (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources) in cooperation with the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC) and Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) jointly conducted an International Training Programme on Renewable Energy: Biogas Energy for Community Development. The training was conducted at Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 24 to 28 November 2014.

The main objective of the training is to provide an instant benefit to energy-related policy makers and renewable energy (especially biogas) practitioners. Upon completion of this training the trainee is expected to be aware of: (i) the importance of renewable energy; (ii) biogas energy; (iii) emission; (iv) technical aspects and benefits of biogas; (v) social and economic aspects; and (vi) sustainability issues.

The training programme was participated by sixteen participants from nine countries, namely, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand and Vietnam. There were nine subjects shared during the class sessions covering: (1) policy and regulation of renewable energy; (2) introduction to biogas energy development, characteristics of biogas; (3) biogas plant development; (4) review of biogas energy development in Indonesia; (5) financial aspect of biogas development; (6) sustainability issues of biogas project; (7) multi-stakeholder approach for biogas project and its challenges; (8) environmental aspect of biogas development; and (9) community development (social, economic and institutional). There were two subjects shared at the field visit, namely, (1) cow dung-based biogas digester operation developed in Sleman district; and (2) liquid waste of tofu processing-based biogas digester operation developed in Kulonprogo District.

There were eminent resource persons invited for the training programme are Mr. Edi Wibowo from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia, Mr. Agung Lenggono from HIVOS, Mr. Rachmawan Budiarto from the University of Gadjah Mada, Dr. Suman Chandra from NIRD, India and Mr. Saifuddin Suaib from USAID-ICED. At the end of the training programme the participants prepared action plan for their individual countries.

Based on the series of evaluation and check participants' expectations, the objective of the programme was satisfactorily met (84%). The similar training programme will be conducted in other Indonesian cities in 2015. There are two types of renewable energy are included in NAM CSSTC's annual programme, namely, micro hydro power and biogas energy. CIRDAP has been a partner for the training programme.



## **CIRDAP – NIRD Collaborative International Training Programme on “Results Based Management: Performance Indicators, Monitoring and Evaluation with Special Focus on Rural Wage Employment Programme**

Guaranteed employment at a pre-determined wage aimed at providing income security to the otherwise under employed and unemployed has been a longstanding staple policy for Governments worldwide. Several wage employment programmes were implemented by Government of India in the past: important among them include National Rural Employment Programme in the V - Five year plan period and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during VIII - Five year plan period. But in (recent) enactment of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) in 2005 aims at guaranteeing 100 days of employment to those households willing to participate in unskilled manual work. The NREGA, rechristened as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is hailed as a programme, which has potential to boost rural income, stabilise agricultural production and reduce rural-urban migration. The statute of MGNREGA is hailed by the Government of India as "the largest and most ambitious social security and public works programme in the world".

While professionalism and inculcation of management skills are important, it is equally necessary to sensitise the development professionals, administrators, and managers, creating in them an awareness of the major task of their bringing about rural transformation through people-centered, people-controlled, and community-driven planning, implementation, monitoring and re-planning of wage employment programmes. Therefore, the programme seeks to:

- Provide participants with a core professional training which integrates the study of concepts and prospects of wage employment programme;
- Offer a range of advanced sessions addressing key policy, planning, implementation and management issues in wage employment programme;
- Equip participants with convergence of schemes, monitoring through social audits and transparency and accountability as policy-makers, planners and managers working on wage employment programmes.

Inaugurating the programme Director General of the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) Dr. M.V. Rao, IAS, mentioned that MGNREGA is India's flagship rural development programme which is considered as one of the biggest programme in the world in terms of outlay, beneficiaries and reach of the programme. Though the programme has designed to meet the requirements of the unemployment situation of rural areas of India, the feature, implementation and impact of the programme have several learnings for other CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs). India is eager to share experiences with the other member countries and also learn from the experiences of best practices of other CMCs. This training programme provided an opportunity for cross learning on the important issues of rural employment which is a huge problem in many Asian countries. Nineteen participants from Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam participated the training programme.

The programme designed with 5 modules began with the orientation about the institute (NIRD&PR) followed by country presentations on Wage Employment Programmes. Under the module of Poverty and Wage Employment Scenario, Director a.i., Training Division, CIRDAP, made a presentation on Status of Rural Employment in CIRDAP Member Countries followed by a session on Poverty Scenario in CIRDAP Countries and Poverty Alleviation Strategies in India by Dr. S.V. Rangacharyulu. Under the Project Management module sessions on Project Cycle; Monitoring and Evaluation Concept and Approaches were made by Dr. S.V. Rangacharyulu and Logical Frame-work Analysis (LFA) : Concept and Approaches; LFA Based Group Exercises through Case Presentations

were taken by Dr. G. Rajani Kanth. The group exercises through case presentations were done for understanding the concept of Logical Frame-work Analysis (LFA) in participatory approach for planning. Under the module Architecture of MGNREGS sessions on The Rights Based Approach to Wage Employment : The genesis, Approach, Institutional Structure and Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders delivered by Dr. V. Suresh Babu and Monitoring Mechanism under MGNREGS Transparency and Accountability (Social Audit) and Grievance Redressal was taken by Dr. C. Dheeraja. Under the module Governance of MGNREGS, case studies were presented by Dr. Hemanath Rao, IPE, Hyderabad and Financing and Fund Management session was handled by Dr. K.K. Tripathy, MoRD, Delhi. The other sessions included the Measurement of Works and Payment of Wages; Social Equity Issues in Wage Employment; Wage Employment Programmes - Rationale and Design; Impact Indicators of MGNREGS. Under the module Planning and Convergence session on Participatory Planning Tools; National Rural Livelihood Mission and Permissible Works and Convergence were included.



*Participants in a Social Audit Session*

The class room presentations were followed by field visit to Tumkur District of Karnataka state where participants gained hands on experience and insight into the MGNREGA. They also visited Mandya where a mock Social Audit was conducted. The participants interacted with the actual beneficiaries and physically checked records to verify the authenticity of information on the numbers of days of employment created under the programme as claimed by the local officials.

The participants also visited the Rural Development Department in the Seralareat and interacted with the Director (MGNREGA) Mr. D. Manish Mudgal and the Additional Director MGNREGA.

The programme concluded with the participants expressing immense satisfaction on the understanding of the concept of planning, management, monitoring and impact of India's massive wage employment programme MGNREGA.

## **Second General Assembly Local Governance Initiative and Network – LOGIN**

Director, Training Division and DG participated in the Second General Assembly of Local Governance Initiative and Network – LOGIN held during 2-4 December 2014 at Kathmandu, Nepal. The purpose of my participation in the programme was to discuss and finalise collaboration with SDC/LOGIN to create a network of decentralisation and local governance in the CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs).

The three days programme focused on reviewing the network of local governance initiative by the Swiss Development Corporation (SDC) and finalising the programme for 2015. The objectives of the programme were:

- Explore critical areas of Network progress;
- Capture learning about change triggered by LOGIN;
- Develop Theories of Change at the thematic and institutional level;
- Review current Network structure and functions co-ownership, effectiveness and sustainability;
- Set strategic priorities for 2015.



The conduct of the general assembly of SDC/LOGIN was done in a very participative manner, wherein the members of the network comprising of government, NGO, individuals, critically reviewed their activities and clearly defined the strengths and weaknesses of the programme conducted during the last two years based on these information the members clearly identified changes required in the future strategy for 2015. The programmes for 2014 included re-envisioning workshop in which each member country (10) come out on areas in which the network need to focus for sharing and learning. Nine areas were identified, of which seven were listed for organising programmes for the year 2015.

One of the programmes which received attention was HLP exposure visit from Nepal to Bangladesh which was the result of CIRDAP organised programme on HLP in Nepal. In the 2015 programmes, SDC/LOGIN as a result of the discussions with SDC, it has been agreed to include networking conference on local government training institutions of CMCs, SDC and SDC members. Accordingly a proposal and draft MoU to conduct collaboratively organised programmes jointly by SDC and CIRDAP have been given to the LOGIN Secretariat for their comments.

Among the members of the SDC/LOGIN, the representatives from Bhutan, who are from the Department of Local Government, Ministry of Home Affairs, Mr. Dorji Norbu, Director General, discussed with him the possibility of Bhutan joining CIRDAP. During the discussion, he advised us to send a letter to him inviting Bhutan to be a member of CIRDAP, which he will take up with the concerned authority.

## Study-cum-exposure

### Meeting with the Secretary, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, Government of Nepal

Director Training Division and DG visited Dr. Som Lal Subedi, Secretary, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, Government of Nepal and apprised him the activities of CIRDAP and the forthcoming EC and GC meetings in Fiji. DG requested the Secretary to attend the meetings. Dr. Subedi requested DG to arrange for small group meetings of countries which have common issues of local government, decentralisation issues like functional transfer to local governments.

### Meeting the Executive Director and Faculty of LDTA

DG and DT a.i had a meeting with LDTA officials. During the meeting it was informed to Mr. Jaya Krishna Shrestha, Director Training of LDTA that CIRDAP plans to organise orientation programme on ICT based Rural Women Entrepreneurship in Nepal for the benefit of women and rural communities of Nepal. The proposal has already submitted to LDTA and it is awaiting the approval of the new ED, LDTA, who is likely to join shortly.

## Diploma Programme

### One Year Post Graduate Diploma Programme in Rural Development Management (PGDRDM) (8th Batch, 2014-15)

Under the regional cooperation, the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, as a goodwill gesture has offered to sponsor five slots to CIRDAP member countries in this programme in order to develop capacities of rural development managers. The Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, is kind enough to cover course fee, board and lodging charges, subsistence allowance, and to and fro air travel by shortest route in economy class from respective countries to Hyderabad, India. The Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has entrusted CIRDAP to solicit nomination from its member countries, scrutinise on criteria suggested by the Ministry and NIRD.

The National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, India, one of the Link Institutions of CIRDAP, is conducting one year residential Post Graduate Diploma Programme in Rural Development Management (PGDRDM). The Eighth Batch will commence in August 2014. The objective of the programme is to develop committed and competent cadre of rural development management professionals and orient in-service officers and practitioners to various facets of rural development.

Seven countries have responded and sent nominations to CIRDAP. On the basis of prescribed eligibility criteria, the nominations were scrutinised and short listed. The short listed candidates were requested for telephonic interview on 03 and 12 June 2014. The interview was conducted by a Board comprising Director a.i, Training Division and Director, Pilot Projects Division, CIRDAP.

On the basis of prescribed eligibility criteria and interview, the following candidates were selected for recommendation to the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India as also to NIRD, Hyderabad for consideration to admit them in the forthcoming 8th Batch, (2014 – 15) programme in the One Year Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development Management:

✳ **Ms. Lukita Ceseria Ibundani, M.Si**

Programme and Report Officer  
Office for Crops and Horticulture  
Province of Nusa Tenggara Barat, Indonesia

✳ **Mr. Vu Van Quan**

Vocational College of Electric,  
Mechanics and Water Resources Vietnam

✳ **Mr. C.R. Thilakarathna**

Agriculture Instructor  
Department of Agriculture  
North Western Province, Sri Lanka

✳ **Mr. Mohammad Neyamul Basar Molla**

Asst. Registrar  
District Cooperative Office  
Manikganj, Bangladesh

✳ **Ms. Melenia Vatumoto Tuinasau**

Acting Administrative Officer (Development)  
Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development  
and National Disaster Management  
Government of the Republic of Fiji Suva, Fiji



*Students of PGDRDM 8th batch with Director Training a.i.*



## ***Information and Communication***

- Knowledge/information generation, management and dissemination
- Training, Workshops and Seminars to strengthen Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Strategies
- Networking and building partnership with stakeholders
- Library Service
- Public Relations

### **Focused Areas**

- Publication
- Knowledge dissemination
- Workshop, seminar and training
- E-learning
- Strengthening public relations



Since information and knowledge is the core part of the rural development, the Information and Communication Division (ICD) played a key role in generating and disseminating knowledge, and information regarding the rural development in the region. The year 2014 witnessed a number of significant activities of the centre including various publications and arrangement of several conferences/seminars/workshops to enhance connectivity with the member countries.

Through Public Relations and Networking activities, the division developed collaboration and partnership with different governmental and international organisations with aim of advancing the interventions for rural development in the region. Moreover, through its updated website, online portal “InfoRD”, and library services, the division disseminated information and updates to public.

The key activities of the ICD can be broadly categories in the following types:

- Training, Workshops and Seminar
- Knowledge/information generation and dissemination
- ICT support and services
- Public Relations
- Networking and developing partnership

## Training, Workshops and Seminar

### CIRDAP- NIRD-TERI One-day Workshop

Following the signing of the MoU, a one day workshop was held on 4th March, 2014 at TERI, Habitat Centre, Delhi on Capacity Building Programmes under MoU between NIRD-CIRDAP-TERI. The agenda of the meeting was:

- To discuss about the proposed initiative of TERI-NIRD-CIRDAP to collaborate in the area of capacity building for CIRDAP Member Countries within the identified eight themes.
- To discuss the potential areas of bilateral action research within the identified themes.
- To strengthen Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Strategies for wider knowledge dissemination and sensitisation.

It was discussed in the meeting that TERI could provide training and capacity building in those areas where TERI has expertise, and NIRD needed to rope in agencies from outside to have training conducted in themes that were beyond TERI's expertise.



*Workshop in progress*

Dr. Effendi spoke on the need for engaging with the Ministries in the member countries and with various donors (ex: GIZ). He suggested that the modules in greater depth in the areas of Disaster Management, Food Security, Rural Energy and Climate Changes could be developed and discussed with the member countries.



Dr. Effendi also mentioned that an annual conference with an identified theme could be planned with the Member countries. It was also suggested that TERI could get involved in the Village Adoption programme of NIRD, and it was suggested on Geo-Informatics that there was a need for engagement of NIRD's C-GARD and GSI's Training Institute with the expertise available in TERI University.

### **Training Course on Digital Repository Software DSpace at CIRDAP ICT Centre**



*Training on Digital Repository Software DSpace*

A two day long training programme from 1 to 2 May 2014 on Digital Repository Software DSpace organised by BALID Institute of Information Management (BIIM), Bangladesh Association of Librarians, Information Scientists and Documentalists (BALID) in collaboration with Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific was successfully completed at CIRDAP ICT Centre.

Director General of CIRDAP Dr. Cecep Effendi was the Chief Guest of the inaugural session of this two day long training programme. Among others Mr. Shyama Prosad Bepari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology was the Special Guest and Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director, ICD and Training, CIRDAP gave a welcome address and Mr. Shamsuddin Ahmed, Director, BALID Institute of Information Management (BIIM) gave the introductory speech on BALID and BIIM in the session.

### **E-learning Workshop for Underprivileged Children Marking CIRDAP Foundation day**

As a part of its foundation day celebrations, CIRDAP organised a one day e-learning workshop for underprivileged children in collaboration with Spreeha Bangladesh Foundation and Integrated Solution for Creativity and Child Education (ISCCHE) on 20 June 2014.

About 20 children from the age group of 10 to 14 from Rayer Bazar participated in the workshop to develop their ICT skills. They were trained to access e-learning software for learning English, Mathematics, Painting, Science and General Knowledge in order to be updated with the world by using the internet. It was a very wonderful opportunity for the employees of CIRDAP to join with the little children and enjoy their enthusiasm of the e-learning process.

The Director General of CIRDAP, Dr. Cecep Effendi inaugurated the programme and said CIRDAP is committed to eradicating poverty by empowering the poor people, especially the children and was delighted to organise such a training programme in CIRDAP.

The objective of workshop is to empower the underprivileged children with skills using the CIRDAP ICT lab. This programme will be done regularly in the future for the benefit of the poor and underprivileged children.

As a part of the programme the children enjoyed games like football, badminton in the CIRDAP play ground. The e-learning session were taken by the Executive Director of Spreeha Bangladesh Foundation, Mr. Mosharraf Hossain.

## E-learning Workshop for Underprivileged Children

Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) continue to organise e-learning workshop for underprivileged children in collaboration with Spreeha Bangladesh Foundation and Integrated Solution for Creativity and Child Education (ISCCHE) on August 9, 2014 (Friday). The objective of workshop is to empower the underprivileged children with skills using the CIRDAP ICT lab. The topic was Mathematics and Typing Skill. This programme will be done regularly in the future for the benefit of the poor and underprivileged children.



*Workshop in progress*

## Workshop on ICT Based Young Rural Women Entrepreneurs in India: Replication of Best Practice in Bangladesh

A five-day orientation Workshop on “ICT Based Young Rural Women Entrepreneurs in India: Replication of Best Practice in Bangladesh” was jointly organised by the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) CIRDAP, Bangladesh from 23–27 September 2014. It was inaugurated by Ms. Sivakami IAS (retd.) on 23 September 2014 at RGNIYD. In her inaugural address, she impressed upon the participants about the importance of imparting entrepreneurial skills to the marginalised section of the community – the dalits and empowering them but underlined that there should be a definite government policy to extend support to marginalised communities at various levels.

Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director, ICD, CIRDAP said that CIRDAP is an inter-governmental organisation established by FAO in Dhaka and is mandated to share the best practices among its member countries. CIRDAP is keen on replicating the successful model of Infolady from Bangladesh in India. She highlighted the objectives of the programme and how Bangladesh is way ahead in empowering women through unique ICT based entrepreneurial initiatives.

Mohammad Mosharrof Hossain who worked as Head of Infolady Global in Dnet and is one of the champions of Infolady model development is the expert who will orient the youth functionaries in India. Under his leadership the team created this model with the creative use of ICTs that received many international Awards.

Dr. K. Giresan, Faculty Head welcomed the gathering and the vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. T. Gopinath, Assistant Professor, RGNIYD. The participants for the programme are dalits drawn from various organisations and representatives of NYKS.



*Workshop in progress*



## Training on MARC 21 (Machine Readable Cataloguing) for Bibliographic Data



*Training in progress at CIRDAP ICT Centre*

A day long training programme on MARC-21 (Machine Readable Cataloguing) for Bibliographic Data organised by BALID Institute of Information Management (BIIM), Bangladesh Association of Librarians, Information Scientists and Documentalists (BALID) in collaboration with Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific was successfully completed at CIRDAP ICT Centre on 23rd August 2014.

Director, ICDI of CIRDAP Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran was the Special Guest of the training programme. Among others Mr. Prof. HM Jahirul Haque, Pro-Vice Chancellor, was the Chief Guest and Mr. Shamsuddin Ahmed, Director, BALID Institute of Information Management (BIIM) gave the introductory speech on BALID and BIIM in the session. Dr. Mirza Rezaul Islam, Chairman, BALID Institute of Information Management (BIIM) gave the concluding speech on BALID and BIIM.

## Youth Leadership Skills Development Exposure Visit Programme

CIRDAP under the MoU with RGNIYD organised for Daffodil International University an official exposure visit to India during 1-4 October, 2014 with a view to experiencing a culture where youth have made a change and train the students on 'Youth Leadership Skills Development. The student youth delegates from Daffodil International University were warmly welcomed by the RGNIYD faculty and students. They participated in a number of lectures on 'National Youth Policy' and 'Youth Development Index', and 'Career Counselling'. They visited the Illantharir a Community Radio Station run by RGNIYD and got the entire concept of developing a community radio and its role or contribution to develop their community particularly youth.



*Programme in progress*

On the second day, the students attended a lecture on Irula Tribal Women's Welfare Society (ITWWS), Thandarai, Tamil Nadu whose main objective is to empower the tribal women through economic and social programmes. Some of these programmes include afforestation, unit for preparation and selling of herbal products prepared by these people, developing sangams providing basic facilities like drinking water, housing electricity and education and providing workshops and training programmes on development of traditional skills. The organisation is engaged in the development work for the welfare of the Irula tribe. Its main activities include documenting Irula knowledge of medicinal plants, tree planting on private and public lands, preparing and selling herbal teas, various medicines, shampoos and other natural products, empowering the tribal women to confront and address social and economic disadvantages and linking up with the national women's and tribal movement. Participants learnt how to develop an underprivileged community sustainably; how to empower women to turn them into national resources and the participants declared their commitments to work in the same areas in Bangladesh to create a new model society.



*Youth delegation with RGNIYD Director Dr. Latha Pillai in a Rajasthani cultural set up*

informal learning and foster innovation and invention in technology, with a focus on technologies aimed at contributing positively to the environment and to the society". The vision of CFI is being achieved by espousing four major concepts: 1) Walk in with an idea, walk out with a product, 2) Support large student team projects, 3) Encourage socially relevant projects, and 4) A futuristic lab environment. Participants also visited different departments of the institute and joined a lecture on "how weather forecasting satellite works". The students went to the campus of Anna University Dept. of Geology, Anna University, Chennai for a presentation on a very contemporary topic titled "Remote Sensing" which covered all the basics and the heads about remote sensing and how this technology assists to plan for the development. This was followed by a visit to L&T Construction Skills Training Institute (CSTI) meant for the 10th fail or less educated youths, in which they are trained in the traders related to construction industry like Mason, Bender and Steel Fixer, and Shuttering Carpenter etc. The duration of the training is three months (in institute) and one month for the Job Training. During this training period in the institute, trainees are paid monthly stipend and shared accommodation is provided. After training the trainees are placed apprentice on the work site for duration of three months and also trainees are placed in job. The student youth also visited different MNC industrial yards (e.g. Asian Paints and BorgWarner – Thermal Cooling System) to get a real life experience regarding large production houses and their contemporary strategic skills applied in producing goods. They also visited ROPE (Handicraft Resources Center) products made from natural banana fibre and Chokhadhani, Thandalam a Rajsthani Cultural society.

Seldom, young people are enticed to adopt social and cultural value systems alien to their interests. Their youthful energy enables them to perform great feats in the theatre of battle of development; their vigour enables them to be the most active transmitters of ideas and skills; their zeal spreads into their surroundings like wild-fire. The unique leanings from this Exposure Visit and Youth Leadership Skills Development Training in RGNIYD, Chennai, India will stimulate the youth delegation to spread it into their own country in Bangladesh. This exchange visit will enable students of Daffodil to believe on their capability and responsibility to make the world change for better living. The exposure programme was coordinated by Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director ICD, CIRDAP and Dr. P. Gopinath, Faculty, RGNIYD.

### **ToT Programme on Disaster Management for Bangladesh Youth in India**

The future of a nation depends on the youths and their zeal for development. The term youth development has now turned into youth led development. On these considerations, the Centre on Integrated Rural Development in Asia and Pacific (CIRDAP) and the Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies (IDMVS), University of Dhaka signed a memorandum of





*Group photograph of Programme Participants*

understanding (MoU) with a view to create a productive youth workforce that can make significant contribution to a nation's development. As a part of this MoU, the students and faculty of the Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies, University of Dhaka were invited to join a 'Youth Exposure Visit and Training of the Trainers (TOT) on Disaster Management' arranged in joint collaboration of Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) and CIRDAP

from 1-4 October, 2014. The broad objective of the TOT programme was to make the students acquainted with the practical knowledge of Disaster Management.

The Technical session started with a presentation on the laws and policies related to disaster management prevailing in India and gave a clear picture of the engagement of Disaster Management Act (2005) in the Constitution of India. The participants were also introduced to exceptional subjects like life skills, career counselling, gender studies etc. "Youth Development Index" another fascinating idea charmed the participants because of its creativity. Like the other index if we can have the idea about youth development then we can always make comparison among the countries. The introduction of youth development index in a developing country like Bangladesh will definitely add a new dimension. From that perspective the importance of the index was appreciated. The participants also gain relevant knowledge on nature of youth development in India and the process of youth development techniques.

The next day the participants went to the campus of "National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)". There the presentation contained basic ideas about disaster and the picture of the deadly disasters which affected India to a greater extent. That also contained the major terms that are used in case of emergency response. The "Search and Rescue" patterns and the modern methods of response were also explained to the participants. The perfect analysis and briefing from the officer there made the event more progressive and knowledgeable. Apart from technical session the practical session contained some of the first hand response mechanism.



*The youth delegation at L&T Construction Skills Training Institute*

On the final day of the programme, there were arrangements made for visiting some of the industrial parks and the "L&T Construction Skill Training Institute" which is picking up the unemployed youths and training them free of cost. The participants also went to other industrial parks. The programme was very much helpful the participants for strengthening their knowledge on disaster management and disaster risk reduction. The exposure programme was coordinated by Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director ICD, CIRDAP and Dr. P. Gopinath, Faculty, RGNIYD.

## Training on Creative Computing and Internet Usages Tips

A two-day long training course titled “Creative Computing and Internet Tips for Executives”



*Snapshots of the training programme*

organised collaboratively by CIRDAP, ISSChE and services for Sustainable Development Limited (SSDL). The training showed participants how to turn common software into their most impressive productivity partner in their daily life. They had learnt many useful tips to help their everyday works faster, smarter, savvier and eventually creative than ever before!

This training gave give them strong fundamentals to build on. Participants also learnt how to use data and produce documents that communicate better

and really get attention. They discovered useful tips by professionals for brilliant, distinctive output every time, on every document. This course taken them straight into a simple set of efficiency rules that will lead them towards ICT excellence.

## Experience Sharing Programme on Exposure Visit to RGNIYD, India

CIRDAP organised a Student Youth Exchange Visit to Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Chennai, India to provide exposure knowledge on disaster management in India. Selected students from Daffodil International University and University of Dhaka, Bangladesh visited RGNIYD. They shared their experience on Exposure Visit to RGNIYD on 20 November, 2014 at CIRDAP.



*Students delegation receiving their certificates at CIRDAP*

CIRDAP organised a Student Youth Exchange Visit to Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Chennai, India to provide exposure knowledge on disaster management in India. Selected students from Daffodil International University and University of Dhaka, Bangladesh visited RGNIYD. They shared their experience on Exposure Visit to RGNIYD on 20 November, 2014 at CIRDAP.

## Knowledge/information generation and dissemination

### CIRDAP E-News

CIRDAP has launched e-News from 2013. During the year 2014, all recent CIRDAP news, events and activities were published monthly and sent it to EC/GC/TC and others by email. CIRDAP e-News archive is also available at CIRDAP website.





Snapshot of CIRDAP e-News



Snapshot of InfoRD.org

## InfoRD.org

CCIRDAP has started an InfoRD.org portal which is a repository of information on rural development of CMCs in particular and in Asia-Pacific region in general.

Data, videos, and best practices of CMCs find place here for sharing with each other and to learn from each other. This being a collaborative portal, contribution flow from the member countries. Thus the portal is the knowledge hub of CMCs. Visit the portal for latest information about Rural Development at [www.inford.org](http://www.inford.org)

## CIRDAP Websites

All recent CIRDAP publications were uploaded on the CIRDAP Website. Pictures, News and press releases of latest CIRDAP events, as well as announcements were regularly uploaded on the website. The site is visited by many visitors from around the globe as measured by the site monitor.



A snapshot of the CIRDAP website

## ICT support and services

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) wing of ICD efficiently and sincerely render its services to the centre and its member countries. Regular trouble-shooting work and supply of computer peripherals were maintained without any hindrance through the year. About 40 e-mail accounts of CIRDAP professional are being maintained. An anti-virus server is also being maintained to protect computers from viruses. Network switches and routers are being maintained to provide broadband internet connection to CIRDAP staff. CIRDAP operates its online set-up in collaboration with Google and BanglaNet Ltd. Video conferencing facilities are provided to different CMCs or CLIs via Skype, as and when required.

## Networking and Developing Partnership

### CIRDAP signs MoU with TERI and NIRD, India

A trilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), and the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) on 20 January 2014. The organisations had agreed to share knowledge, exchange experiences and undertake cooperative action for furthering the objectives of development of the rural areas in the region.

#### The objectives of the MoU are as follows:

- To help develop knowledge expertise and institutional capacity in the region comprising of CIRDAP Member Countries to address issues particularly in relation to mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and the promotion of more sustainable uses of natural resources and energy to promote inclusive development of rural and urban populations, so as to reduce poverty;
- To help channel the created institutional capacity to be able to prepare and execute projects, by accessing special funds for the purpose from institutions like the World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

The areas of cooperation of this MOU include: mitigation and adaptation strategies in the context of climate change, particularly in relation to agriculture and rural development; energy access to rural populations, particularly low carbon/renewable energy options like solar, hydro and biomass; and "Green strategies" for managing natural resources, urbanisation, rural-urban transitions and economic growth.

### CIRDAP EC Chairperson's Representative Visits Myanmar

The EC Chairperson Representative Mr. Atal Dulloo, Joint Secretary (IC), Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India; Prof. Ashok K. Singh, Project Director, Rice Division, Indian Rice Research Institute (IRRI) along with Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP and Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director a.i, Training Division, CIRDAP, visited Myanmar from 23-26 March 2014. The main purpose of this visit to Myanmar was to enhance the engagement with Myanmar and share and learn from each others experiences.



*EC Chairperson Representative in the meeting*



The delegation met H.E. Mr. Myint Hlaing, Union Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Government of the Union of Myanmar; Director Generals (DGs) of Department of Agricultural Planning, Department of Agriculture, Rector of Yezin University Dr. Tin Htut on 23 March 2014 at 8.30 AM at the chambers of Hon'ble Union Minister and discussed with various issues of concern to Myanmar, India and CIRDAP.



*Field visit*

The delegation then visited Yezin University, where they discussed with the Director and faculty members of Yezin Agricultural University. Yezin University made presentation about the programmes and activities of the university. After that Mr. Atal Dulloo, Joint Secretary, MoRD, Dr. A.K. Singh, Project Director, Rice Division, IRRI, DG, CIRDAP made presentations.

After lot of discussion and deliberations the following issues and recommendations came out:

#### **Main areas of collaboration**

Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Government of Myanmar identified three main areas for India's support :

- Seed Production Technology
- Disaster Management and Coping with Climate Change.
- Inviting private universities from India to be established in Myanmar.

#### **Collaboration between Yezin Agriculture University and India with the support from CIRDAP**

- Seed production with special reference to hybrid seed production in rice;
- Short term expert for reforming agriculture extension curriculum;
- Faculty exchange programme;
- Climate change and disaster management-climate resilience agriculture crops.
- Organic Farming
- Postharvest Technology
- Developing Natural Resource Management Curriculum
- Developing varieties for climatic stress tolerance.
- Guidance in social sciences-rural sociology.
- Helping in preparing new charter for the university and new teaching methods
- Sharing best practices in rural enterprises, agriculture marketing, agriculture practices, rural mechanisation, seed, irrigation and reduction of transaction cost.
- To provide details of various programmes/ schemes, Acts/Laws related to Indian agriculture and rural development.
- Sharing India's experiences IT application for rural and agriculture development.
- Close collaboration between scientists, educationist, technicians between the two countries.

The team then visited the demonstration plots of Yezin Agricultural University and ACARE and Rice Bio-Park and interacted with the faculty and students engaged in the implementation of these projects.

### **Meeting Between DG CIRDAP and DG NIRD and Faculty**

Following the one-day workshop, a meeting between DG CIRDAP and DGF NIRD and faculty was held on 20 March 2014. As decided in the meeting on Capacity Building Programmes under Mou between NIRD-CIRDAP-TERI, NIRD proposes to take up the following training programmes of 2014-15:

- International Workshop cum Training Programme on Food and Nutritional Security Assurance through Efficient Resource and Technology Management in between May 19 and 28, 2014 at NIRD, Hyderabad.
- International Workshop cum Training Programme on Appropriate Rural Technologies for Promoting Inclusive Growth in between May 21 and 30, 2014 at NIRD, Hyderabad.

### **CIRDAP MoU with BALID**

Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director (ICD) held the meeting with the Bangladesh Association of Librarians, Information Scientists and Documentalist (BALID) officials to discuss their proposal on BALID-CIRDAP joint training course on D-Space.

The training will be arranged as a joint collaboration programme of CIRDAP and BALID in May 2014. The target group of the training will be the library, information and documentation professionals and the students of library science departments of different universities. This training may be organised quarterly in a year. After the first training course, detail modalities and TOR of the training shall be prepared for conducting further courses. For this, a MoU shall be prepared and signed by both party.

After signing the MoU, different collaborative activities may be undertaken. Making link with other universities shall be done. In future, involvement of India and other CIRDAP member countries in this programme will also be done.

### **Asia-Pacific Journal of Rural Development Editorial Board Meeting Held**

The 44th Meeting of the APJORD Editorial Board was held on 8 April 2014 with Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP in the Chair. Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, Director (Information and Communication), CIRDAP and Editor, APJORD, convened the meeting. The APJORD Editorial Board Members Ms. Taherunnesa Abdullah, Development Consultant; Dr. Momtaz Uddin Ahmed, Professor, University of Dhaka; Dr. Mahbub Hossain, Executive Director, BRAC; Dr. Mohammad Farashuddin, Vice-Chancellor of East West University; and Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, Director PPD, CIRDAP were present at the meeting. The members finalised the articles for APJORD Vol. XXIII, No.2, December 2013. It was proposed that new Advisors be included from all universities of CMCs for the APJORD Editorial Advisory Board as per the list prepared by ICD Division.

### **DG meets Director, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD)**

DG, CIRDAP and Director a.i., Training Division, CIRDAP, visited Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Chennai, India, to meet Dr. Lata Pillai, Director, RGNIYD and to discuss the plan of action for 2014-19 under the CIRDAP – RGNIYD MoU. Since the Director, RGNIYD had recently assumed charge as Director, RGNIYD she had invited DG, CIRDAP to discuss collaboration.





*DG CIRDAP with Director, RGNIYD Dr. Latha Pillai*

The meeting was arranged after the Workshop-cum-Training Programme on Food and Nutritional Security Assurance through Efficient Response and Technology Management, May 19 - 25, 2014 at NIRD, Hyderabad, India. DG and Director a.i., Training Division, CIRDAP had a meeting with the Director, Registrar and faculty members Dr. Gopinath of the International Cooperation Division and Mr. David, Training Officer of RGNIYD. Elaborate discussions on the activities/programmes to be undertaken

under the MoU took place and various suggestions emerged during the discussion.

It was decided to prepare an Action Plan for five years including the policy decisions to be taken by RGNIYD to implement it under the MoU. It was also decided that for coordination of various activities, the nodal person from CIRDAP will be Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran and Dr. T. Gopinath from RGNIYD.

Various activities to be undertaken under the MoU were discussed thoroughly and a plan of action was prepared and finalised. After the meeting DG and Director a.i, Training Division, CIRDAP visited the RGNIYD Library, Auditorium and other infrastructure facilities including the Community Radio Station 'Illanthiri' which targets the adolescent and youth in the community living in Sriperumbudur. DG, CIRDAP had live talk on the importance of information to the adolescent and youth. Community radio is a means through which they can be well informed which will empower them to face the challenges in life.



*DG CIRDAP visiting the roof top solar system at MSSRF*



DG, CIRDAP and Director Training a.i, along with Dr. Gopinath then proceeded to MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) to meet Dr. Ajay Parida, Executive Director, MSSRF and discussed collaboration on sustainable development with him. Dr. Ajay Parida informed DG, CIRDAP about the 'Asia-Pacific Consultation on Role of Family Farming in the 21st Century' to be held in August 2014 by MSSRF and invited DG, CIRDAP to the event. It was decided to have an MoU between CIRDAP and MSSRF to organise the Annual Conference on Sustainable Development. DG, CIRDAP then visited the Touch and Feel Medicinal and Herbal Garden, Roof Top Solar Energy System in the campus of MSSRF.

#### **Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO) Forum 2014**



*Director, ICD and Computer Programmer, CIRDAP attended Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO) Forum 2014 on 8-10 September at Hotel Radisson, Dhaka*

### **Library Services**

#### **CIRDAP Aziz-ul Haq Library (CAL) Services**

##### **Basic library services:**

Current Awareness Service, Selected Dissemination of Information, Referral services Reference services, Bibliography services, photocopy services, Reading room services, Prepared library plan, budget, reports, Readers requests as required by Organisation were carried out during the year 2014. Provided basic orientations and briefings to distinguished visitors and visiting scholars. Regular library activities (e.g. accessioning of Library books and periodicals, process of library materials, entry and update of database, shelving of books/periodicals/newspapers etc) were carried out.

##### **CAL Newspaper Clippings:**

It is compressive information services for researchers and experts interested in rural area for poverty alleviation in Asian-Pacific region. Newspaper clippings mainly focus on Agrarian development, Institutional/Infrastructural development, Resource development, including human resources and employment. CIRDAP Online Newspaper Clipping Services have been further strengthened. CAL



newspaper clipping services are being sent to the professional staff of CIRDAP in every month and hard copies are kept for all professionals. Some development news has been published on CDD.

New folders are maintained under the following topics: Climate change and Global Warming, Poverty reduction, ICT for Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation, Sustainable Rural livelihoods, Food security and Nutrition, Rural Education, SME Development, CMC's Local Governance, Decentralisation and Good governance, Water and Sanitation, Disaster and Risk reduction, Rural Technology Development, Renewable Energy, Agriculture and Rural Development, Floating Agriculture, Micro credit and Micro finance

#### **Publication Exchange Programme:**

CIRDAP publication exchange programme has been expanded. More important Institutes and Organisations have been added to the list.

#### **Success stories from CIRDAP Member Countries:**

CIRDAP Aziz-ul Haq Library (CAL) regularly collects success stories from CIRDAP Member Countries related to rural development and Poverty Alleviation and dissemination by mails to the Professionals. Compilation work of Success stories has been published 2014 as a book by CIRDAP

#### **E-books collection:**

CAL regularly collects E-books relevant to rural development for enriching the CIRDAP Aziz-ul Haq Library (CAL). More than 800 e-books have been added to CAL. CIRDAP staffs can access to those e-books through the local network of the office. It will gradually input in D-Space software.

#### **Collecting free database and free Journals, free library websites:**

CAL collects some of free rural development related databases which are available on various journal websites; for example: Social Science research Network (SSRN). Free Library websites (such as, The World Bank Open Knowledge Repository (OKR), ADB Library, to disseminate rural development knowledge and information of latest resources for CIRDAP professionals are free of cost.

#### **Contacting Publishers**

Contact with local (Bangladesh) and International Publishers for purchasing new books and journals.


#### **CAL E-Abstract Services:**

CAL E-Abstract is a compendium of newly published articles (abstracts and citation) related to poverty reduction and rural development in the Asia and Pacific Region.

CAL is collecting articles from received journals along with articles available in open source Journals and subscribed journals and makes them available through **CAL E-Abstract Services** for CIRDAP's professionals as well as CMC's professionals. Articles are compiled quarterly and sending by mail for easy access of current literature on RD and PA for CIRDAP's staff and CMCs.

#### **Communication and collaboration with regional Library Networks in Bangladesh**

Participate in Library networks in Bangladesh for exchanging information and knowledge sharing and dissemination. Participation in various Library programmes and workshops with many libraries in Bangladesh, like United Nations Information Centre(UNIC), Library Association of Bangladesh (LAB) and Bangladesh Association of Librarians, Information Scientists and Documentlist (BALID) and International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research Bangladesh, ICDDR,B.



Participated in joint Workshop on Saturday, 12 April 2014 at Southeast University “Use of RFID Technology in Integrated Library Management System in Bangladesh: a practical experience” and another workshop on “Automation of Libraries using Senayan Library Management System - SLiMS” jointly organised by BALID Institute of Information Management (BIIM) and Southeast University.

Participated two days Training on “DSpace” Institutional Repository software on 30 April 2014 to 1 May, 2014. Jointly organised by BALID Institute of Information Management (BIIM) and CIRDAP

Participated Training on “MARC 21” bibliographic information computerised library systems on 23 August 2014. Jointly organised by BALID Institute of Information Management (BIIM) and CIRDAP

Participated workshop programme on “Information Services in Rural Bangladesh : An A2i initiative” on 21st December 2014 at Central Public Library, Shahbagh, Dhaka Jointly organised by UN Library and Central Public Library, Dhaka.

#### **CAL Directory of Rural Development Experts of CMCs:**

Collecting Addresses of Rural development Experts from CMCs to publish a Directory on Rural Development Experts of CIRDAP Countries.

#### **CAL News Alerts and CAL Content Alerts:**

Through the “CAL News Alerts” and “CAL Content Alerts” initiative, CIRDAP staffs can read important and interesting news immediately and through “CAL Content Alerts” Staff can read current Articles related to RD and PA which are published in Newspapers in CMCs. It has been send by mail in every week.

#### **Picture Collection for Desk Calendar 2015:**

Collected Pictures related to rural livelihoods from CIRDAP member countries for CIRDAP Desk Calendar 2015.



## ***Administration and Finance***

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### **Administration**

- TC Meeting
- CIRDAP In-house Annual Review and Planning Seminar (CIARPS)
- Human Resource

### **Finance**

- Auditor's Report



The key activities of the Administration and Finance Division are to provide necessary administrative support services to the Office of Director General in accomplishing his task and to provide the required facilities to all Programme Divisions to achieve the Centre's objectives in the most efficient and economic manner. The services include, among others, arranging meetings of CIRDAP Policy Bodies like Technical Committee (TC), Executive Committee (EC) and Governing Council (GC), implementation of the decisions of the above meetings related to the administration and financial matters, arranging recruitment of general and professional staffs as per operational manual, developing/managing/utilising personnel, procurement, maintenance of the office premises/properties/campus and arrangement of residential accommodation for professional staff-members, protocol duties, management of CIRDAP auditorium/cafeteria, liaison with Ministries and concerned departments for ensuring all diplomatic facilities, construction and renovation work of CIRDAP complex etc.

The division recommends and administers financial policies/procedure, manages financial affairs including arranging interim and final audit work of the centre. It prepares annual and biannual Programmes of Works and Budget (PWB), maintains expenditures in different projects and maintains ledger/books of day-to-day financial activities.

## Administration

### Twenty-Ninth Regular Meeting of CIRDAP Technical Committee (TC 29)

The twenty-ninth meeting of CIRDAP Technical Committee (TC 29) was held at Hotel Movenpick, Hanoi, Vietnam on 15-16 and 18 September 2014. Delegates from all the CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs) except Myanmar attended the Meeting. H.E. the Ambassador of Sri Lanka and delegates from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Hanoi and observers and representatives of the development partners were also present during the inaugural session.

The Administration and Finance Division of CIRDAP provided all kinds of administrative, logistics, protocol and financial support to conduct the Technical Committee meeting.

### CIRDAP In-house Annual Review and Planning Seminar (CIARPS)

CIRDAP In-house Annual Review and Planning Seminar was held on 16 and 21 April 2014 at CIRDAP International Conference Centre, Dhaka. Two days long session was attended by all concerned staffs and presided over by Dr. Cecep Effendi, Director General, CIRDAP. Concerned Staffs from all the divisions presented their annual planning schedule for the year 2014.



*CIRDAP Annual Planning Meeting participants*



There were through discussions on every issue including its financial involvement, time frame of the plan etc. The Director General in his speech laid down the road map for the organisation for the year 2014 and beyond.

## Human Resource

### Appointment of Staff Members:

During 2014, 02 Professional Staff Members – Director (PPD) and Acting Director (Research), 01 GS Staff Members – Publication Assistant were recruited in the respective vacant posts.

### Separation:

Category	Name	Designation	Date of Separation
Professional	Mr. Hossein Shahbaz	Director (PPD)	31.12.2014
General Service	Ms. Laila Nasrin	Secretary (ICD)	10.02.2014
	Mr. Md. Mohiuddin Ahmed	Finance Assistant	31.03.2014
	Mr. Md. Mofizul Islam Sarker	Driver	03.09.2014
	Mr. Md. Ramjan Ali	Watchman	01.10.2014
Short Term	Mr. Md. Mahbub Alam	Head of Admin. & Finance	11.07.2014

### Personnel Advisory Committee:

The Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC) of CIRDAP advise the Director General regarding all appointment, promotion, renewal of tenure, confirmation of appointment, separation/termination of the staff members and other HR related matters which took place during last year. During 2014, 07 PAC meetings were convened for confirmation, renewal and separation of services of CIRDAP staff members.

## Protocol Support

Administration provided required protocol support services e.g. arranging ticket and PTA, transportation to airport to receive and see-off the travelers, arranged accommodation, food etc., liason with embassies located in Dhaka and other CMCs for the visas for the travelers in connection with all the CIRDAP programmes held during year. Protocol services were also extended to the expatriate staffs of CIRDAP in getting renewals of their passport/visa, along with required maintenance renewal of agreements with the landlord for tenancy of the Directorial staff were made.

## Purchase and Maintenance Committee

The Purchase and Maintenance Committee of CIRDAP considers the cost, quality, necessity etc. regarding any purchase/maintenance of property/supply/ equipment etc. of the Centre and provide fair suggestion/ recommendation in order to take decision by the Authority. A total of 39 meetings of Purchase and Maintenance Committee were held during 2014.

## Transportation

Necessary repairing, maintenance, denting, painting and regular servicing work of all the vehicles of CIRDAP were arranged from Navana Toyota Service Centre. Arrangements for getting insurance and fitness certificates were made from Bangladesh Road Transport Authority.

### **CIRDAP Auditorium and CICC**

Public Works Department (PWD) has done necessary painting and repairing works in the CIRDAP Auditorium during the year. Necessary repairing works of the Air-condition and PA system of the CICC were done by PWD.

### **Renovation / Maintenance Work**

Painting works of inside and outside of the CIRDAP Main building, front side of CIRDAP Annex building (Auditorium building), inside of the CIRDAP Auditorium including necessary repairing works, cafeteria and mosque were done by the Public Works Department (PWD) before the meeting. Necessary measures were also taken for beautification of garden including cutting of grass and cleaning of garbage and preparation of vats for planting seasonal flower.

### **Participatory activities**

CIRDAP has introduced weekly game for the staff members on every Thursday afternoon. Moreover, Monthly Cleaning Day, Monthly Staff Meeting and Lottery Draw programmes were arranged for the staff members every month.

## **Finance**

CIRDAP has two main sources of funding: (i) regular contributions from the CMCs for the administrative budget (General Fund), and (ii) contributions from the donor countries/agencies for programme activities (Trust Fund).

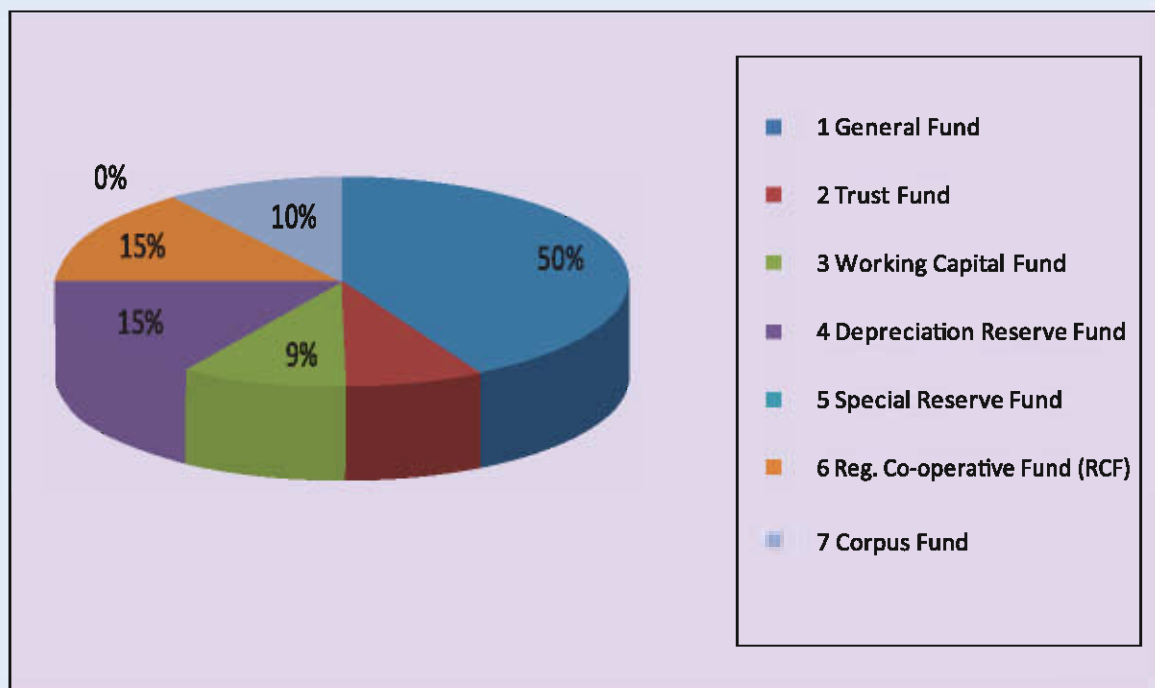
Income and Expenditure of General fund for the 17th biennium (2012-2013) were US\$2,035,955.46 and US\$1,503,372.63 respectively. Income and Expenditure of Trust fund for the 17th biennium (2012-2013) were US\$404,479.59 and US\$295,258.99 respectively.

### **Audit of the Accounts**

The Final accounts of the Centre for the 17th biennium (2012-2013) was audited by Dr. Pirbhoo Lal, Director Commercial Audit, Karachi, Office of the Auditor General of Pakistan, from 28th August 2014 to 15th September 2014. The Auditor's Report and the financial statements for the 17th Biennium (2012-2013) have been furnished below:



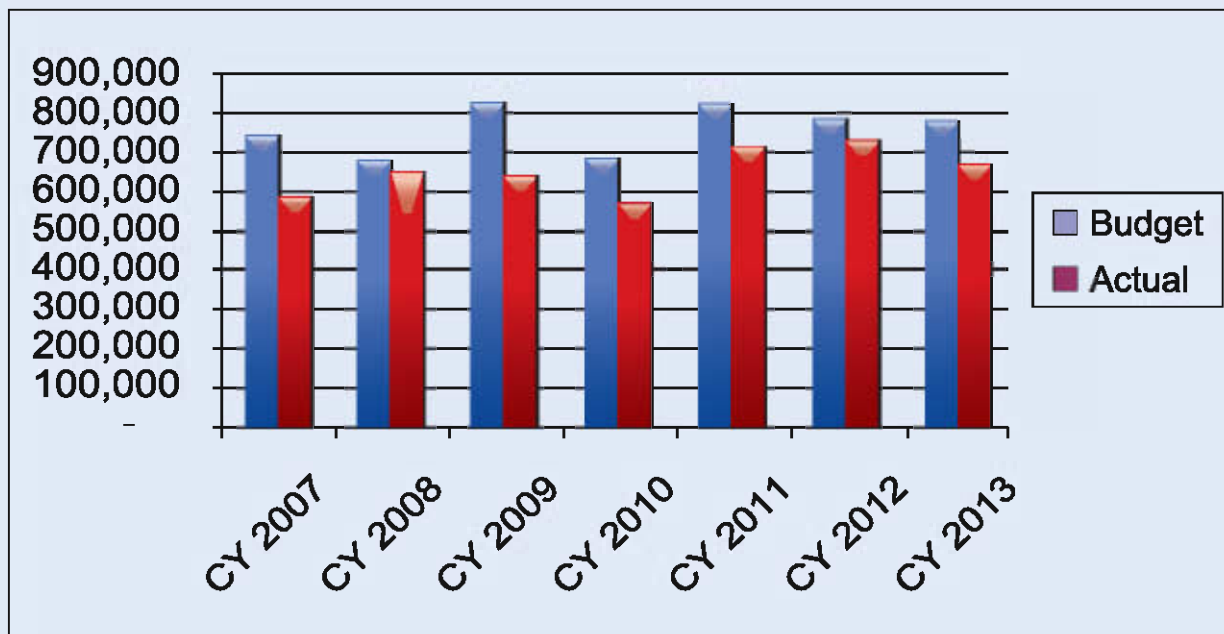
CIRDAP Fund Status as at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013		
Sl #	Name of Fund	Amount in US\$
1	General Fund	532,582.83
2	Trust Fund	109,220.60
3	Working Capital Fund	130,317.00
4	Depreciation Reserve Fund	186,235.29
5	Special Reserve Fund	3,428.09
6	Reg. Co-operative Fund (RCF)	186,635.36
7	Corpus Fund	129,523.79
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,277,942.96</b>



## CIRDAP General Fund

Amount in US\$

	CY 2007	CY 2008	CY 2009	CY 2010	CY 2011	CY 2012	CY 2013
<b>Budget</b>	742,692	685,425	810,568	685,425	810,568	771,811	786,220
<b>Actual</b>	583,873	640,328	608,325	570,392	690,967	722,698	651,151





**AUDITOR'S REPORT  
ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF CIRDAP  
FOR THE FINAL YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2013  
FOR THE 17th BIENNIUM (2012-2013)**

The undersigned has examined the financial statements of CIRDAP (Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific) for the final year ended 31st December, 2013 for the 17th biennium (2012-2013) on the basis of information and explanations provided.

Audit is conducted in light of generally accepted auditing standards and CIRDAP's Manual and financial regulations. The audit is designed to provide reasonable assurance that CIRDAP's financial statements taken as a whole are free from material misstatements. The audit includes examining the records, on test basis and ensuring adequate disclosures in the financial statements.

The undersigned opines, as a result of the audit, that the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects. The auditor's observations, if any, are included as part of the report.



**Dr. Pirbhoo Sochi Lal**  
External Auditor, CIRDAP for the 17th Biennium (2012-2013)  
Director Commercial Audit, Karachi  
Office of the Auditor General of Pakistan

Dhaka, 15th September 2014

# CIRDAP

## Consolidated Assets and Liabilities (S/AL) Final Accounts as on December 31, 2013

Account Code	Assets	2012-2013 17th Biennium Amount in US\$	Notes	2010-2011 16th Biennium Amount in US\$
040100	Cash in Hand	1,370.89		8,085.43
040200	Cash in Banks	449,662.46	1	286,024.78
040300	Investment in Banks	396,596.23	1.A	668,542.95
040000	<b>Subtotal of Cash in Hand and Banks</b>	<b>847,629.58</b>		<b>962,653.16</b>
040401	CMC Contribution Receivables	393,608.00	2	296,802.70
040402	Advance to Staff	56,895.78	4	7,813.65
040403	Prepayments and Deposits	3,640.21	5	3,623.30
040000	<b>Subtotal of Receivables</b>	<b>454,143.99</b>		<b>308,239.65</b>
80801-2	Fixed Assets	56,255.94	3	20,000.85
080005	Asset - auditorium/conference room	7,981.20	3	8,878.20
080006	asset purchased from project account	6,218.31	3	9,628.13
080007	asset purchased from DRF	75,598.32	3	60,834.08
080000	<b>Subtotal of Fixed Assets</b>	<b>146,053.77</b>		<b>99,341.26</b>
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,447,827.34</b>		<b>1,370,234.07</b>
	<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>			
010101	Advance Contribution Received	50,310.00		51,480.00
010102	Other Accounts Payable	17,352.29	6	13,266.13
080950	Revaluation Reserve	102,222.09		-
	<b>Sub Total of Total Liabilities</b>	<b>169,884.38</b>		<b>64,746.13</b>
	<b>Net Assets</b>			
020100	General Fund ( GF )	532,582.83		649,547.21
080000	Fixed Assets	-		-
	<b>Subtotal of General Fund</b>	<b>532,582.83</b>		<b>649,547.21</b>
020200	Trust Fund ( TF )	109,220.60		177,338.48
020300	Working Capital Fund ( WCF )	130,317.00		130,317.00
020400	Depreciation Reserve Fund ( DRF )	186,235.29		188,283.21
020500	Special Reserve Fund ( SRF )	3,428.09		3,425.63
020600	Reg. Co-ope Fund (RCF)	186,635.36		156,576.41
020700	Corpus Fund	129,523.79		-
	<b>Subtotal of Other Funds</b>	<b>745,360.13</b>		<b>655,940.73</b>
	<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>1,447,827.34</b>		<b>1,370,234.07</b>

The annexed schedules, statement and working notes forms are integral part of these statements



Finance Officer  
Dhaka, December 31, 2013



In-Charge Finance  
Dhaka, December 31, 2013



Director General  
Dhaka, December 31, 2013



**CIRDAP**  
**General Fund (GF)**  
**Statement of Income and Expenditure**  
For the year ended on 31 December 2013

Account Code                      Income		2012-2013 17th Biennium Amount in US\$	2010-2011 16th Biennium Amount in US\$
020100	Open in Balance of Fund	649,547.21	482,103.07
	Add : Assets retained from DRF	-	89,935.67
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>649,547.21</b>	<b>572,038.74</b>
070101	CIRDAP Member Country Contribution	<b>1,247,075.80</b>	<b>1,232,840.58</b>
070200	Miscellaneous Income	<b>139,332.45</b>	<b>106,026.40</b>
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,035,955.46</b>	<b>1,910,905.72</b>

Code	Expenditure		
080101	Professional Staff Salary	306,092.09	281,379.47
080102	General Staff Salary	356,551.99	312,482.32
080104	General Staff Overtime	4,418.91	4,707.09
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>667,062.99</b>	<b>598,568.88</b>
080200	Common Staff Cost	<b>179,273.31</b>	<b>144,686.24</b>
080300	Official Travels	<b>190,380.19</b>	<b>143,901.54</b>
080400	External Audit	<b>8,286.60</b>	<b>6,700.00</b>
080600	General Operating Expenses	<b>310,265.94</b>	<b>350,096.92</b>
080700	Supplies and Materials	<b>18,579.81</b>	<b>17,404.93</b>
020700	Corpus Fund	<b>129,523.79</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,503,372.63</b>	<b>1,261,358.51</b>

	Fund Balance carried to the Statement of Assets and Liabilities (S/AL)	<b>532,582.83</b>	<b>649,547.21</b>
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The annexed schedules, statements and working notes form an integral part of these statements



Finance Officer  
Dhaka, December 31, 2013



In-Charge Finance  
Dhaka, December 31, 2013



Director General  
Dhaka, December 31, 2013

**CIRDAP**  
**Trust Fund (TF)**  
**Statement of Income and Expenditure**  
For the year ended on 31 December 2013

Account Code                      Income		2012-2013 17th Biennium Amount in US\$	2010-2011 16th Biennium Amount in US\$
020200	Opening Balance of Fund	177,338.48	173,257.35
020200	Allocation From Special Reserve Fund	29,940.07	25,871.94
070303	Contribution Received From others	53,626.21	17,070.53
070303	Fund Transfer From RCF	8,466.83	-
070303	Contributions of JAPAN through LGRD	-	185,600.00
070303	Training Course Fee & Other Contribution	135,108.00	72,643.76
		<b>197,201.04</b>	<b>275,314.29</b>
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>404,479.59</b>	<b>474,443.58</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>		
090100	Research Projects	6,809.89	204,677.68
090200	Pilot Projects	17,851.32	1,634.68
090300	Training Projects	160,546.39	64,920.80
090400	Doc. & Information Projects	51,875.69	25,871.94
090500	Other Programme	2,890.00	
010102	Donor Agency Contribution Refund	55,285.70	-
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>295,258.99</b>	<b>297,105.10</b>
	Fund Balance carried to the Statement of of Assets and Liabilities ( S/AL)	<b>109,220.60</b>	<b>177,338.48</b>

The annexed schedules, statements and working notes form an integral part of these statements .



Finance Officer  
Dhaka, December 31, 2013



In-Charge Finance  
Dhaka, December 31, 2013



Director General  
Dhaka, December 31, 2013



## *Sub-regional Office of CIRDAP in South East Asia*



### **Review of the SOCSEA**

The decision to establish SOCSEA was agreed during the 10th Governing Council Meeting in Vientiane, Lao PDR in December 1995. The Governing Council in its meeting decided to establish Sub-Regional Office of CIRDAP in Southeast Asia. Director General of CIRDAP signed an agreement for the establishment of SOCSEA with Director General of International Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia on 21 February 1997.

SOCSEA has two basic mandate. First to look for possibility to increase membership of CIRDAP from among ASEAN Member Countries as well as East Asia and the Pacific sub-region and by doing so, it would also increase the source of funding for CIRDAP. Second, SOCSEA conduct activities relevant to the social-cultural environment of Southeast Asian region.

Since its establishment in 1997, SOCSEA has already conducted 75 (seventy five) programme activities including training, research, workshop in collaboration with national as well as international organisations in the field of rural development like National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Non-Aligned Movement South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM SSTC), Center for International Forestry (CIFOR), Asian Productivity Organisation (APO) and International Council of Churches Organisation (ICCO). In addition, SOCSEA also participated in facilitating 12 training programmes organised by CIRDAP in collaboration with NAM SSTC and NIRD for CIRDAP Member Countries.

Ten years after its establishment, in 15th Governing Council Meeting in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2005, the Governing Council decided to establish Subcommittee to evaluate the performance of SOCSEA. In the 16th Governing Council Meeting in Manila, the Philippines the Governing Council approved the recommendation submitted by the Sub-Committee that SOCSEA needed to be empowered, strengthened with enough financial resources, staffs and professional to capacitate SOCSEA to fulfil its mandate.

Government of Indonesia has taken serious step to renovate SOCSEA office in 2012 and did it again recently in June 2014. The renovation could be seen as serious attempt by the Government of Indonesia to endorse the importance of SOCSEA. CIRDAP Management also took initiatives to revive activities of SOCSEA. In April 2013, in cooperation with International Council of Churches Organisation, CIRDAP organised international training programme on Small and Medium Enterprises for 9 (nine) ASEAN Member Countries. In March 2014, with the support from the Director General of Rural and Community Empowerment, Ministry of Home Affairs Republic of Indonesia, SOCSEA organised International Training Programme on Small and Medium Enterprises in Bali for CIRDAP Member Countries; where five CIRDAP Member Countries participated in the programme.

Despite all these attempt to revive activities of SOCSEA, some fundamental issues still need to be resolved to ensure the sustainability of SOCSEA as a regional hub of CIRDAP Member Countries in Southeast Asia. The first concern is the source of funding. The Foundation Agreement signed by

CIRDAP and the Government of Indonesia on 25 February 1997 stipulated that Indonesian government agreed to provide budget support to meet the expenditure for the operation of CIRDAP. There was no further discussion where the source of funding will be managed for SOCSEA after the first two years (1997-1999). During the 25th Executive Meeting and 15th Governing Council Meeting in Dhaka in 2005, decision was taken that Indonesia would enhance its contribution up to 30 (thirty) percent to be allocated for the operation cost of SOCSEA. Therefore since 2005 SOCSEA has been funded from the 30 percent deduction of annual contribution of the Government of Indonesia to CIRDAP.

CIRDAP and Director General of Rural and Community Empowerment, Ministry of Home Affairs of Republic of Indonesia has been discussing the best way to revive SOCSEA activity and to do this, there is a need to revise the agreement between CIRDAP and Government of Indonesia on the establishment of SOCSEA signed in February 1997. The revision will pave the way for the Indonesian government to provide the operational funding for the future programme of SOCSEA. However, since funding for international organisations must come from the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the discussion will need to involve the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well. The second aspect that need to be done to revive SOCSEA activity is to strengthen the management of SOCSEA. CIRDAP has invited University Proklamasi in Jogjakarta who has keen interest in promoting rural development to help assist what will be the best way to revive SOCSEA activities. The discussion is currently going on between the University Proklamasi and Directorate General of Rural and Community Empowerment concerning the future programme of SOCSEA.

The following are the programmes facilitated with support from SOCSEA during the year 2014:

#### **Training Programme on Renewable Energy: Micro Hydro Power for Rural Development**

The Government of Indonesia (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources) in cooperation with the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC), in support of the Inter-Church Organisation for Development Cooperation (ICCO Foundation) and the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) shared experiences with developing countries through Training Programme on Renewable Energy: Micro Hydro Power for Rural Development.





The training programme was conducted from 22 to 29 September 2014 in Ibis Hotel, Surabaya. Field studies were conducted at the Micro Hydro Power Plant of Kalimaron in Seloliman Village of Mojokerto District.

The participants were requested to present their respective country papers on the first session. The 8 (eight) Training Modules were shared in the Class and Field Sessions, namely: (1) Introduction to Renewable Energy; (2) Technical Engineering of Micro Hydro Power (MHP); (3) Financial Aspect of MHP; (4) Social and Economic Aspects of MHP; (5) Productive Use of Electricity; (6) Basic Knowledge of MHP; (7) Sustainability Aspect of MHP; and (8) Successful Case of MHP Plant of Kalimaron in Seloliman Village.

On the concluding session the participants also prepared and presented their Action Plans to be implemented in their respective countries when they are back home.

Total participant was 18 persons from 10 developing countries, namely: Cambodia, Cuba, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, and Vietnam. There are 2 persons from Cuba and South Africa as well.

The participants were from the government institutions, universities and state enterprises working on energy-related activities.

### **International Training on Renewable Energy: Biogas for Community Development**

With reference to the successful biogas energy development in many areas spread out in Indonesia, the Government of Indonesia (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources) in cooperation with the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC) and Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) jointly conducted an International Training Programme on Renewable Energy: Biogas Energy for Community Development. The training was conducted at Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 24 to 28 November 2014.

The training programme was participated by sixteen participants from nine countries, namely, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand and Vietnam. There were nine subjects shared during the class sessions covering: (1) policy and regulation of renewable energy; (2) introduction to biogas energy development, characteristics of biogas; (3) biogas plant development; (4) review of biogas energy development in Indonesia; (5) financial aspect of biogas development; (6) sustainability issues of biogas project; (7) multi-stakeholder approach for biogas project and its challenges; (8) environmental aspect of biogas development; and (9) community development (social, economic and institutional). There were two subjects shared at the field visit, namely, (1) coew dung-based biogas digester operation developed in sleman district; and (2) liquid waste of tofu processing-based biogas digester operation developed in Kulonprogo District.

There were eminent resource persons invited for the training programme are Mr. Edi Wibowo from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia, Mr. Agung Lenggono from HIVOS, Mr. Rachmawan Budiarto from the University of Gadjah Mada, Dr. Suman Chandra from NIRD, India and Mr. Saifuddin Suaib from USAID-ICED. At the the end of the training programme the participants prepared action plan for their individual countries.

## ***CIRDAP Staff Profile***

### **Directorial and Professional Staff of CIRDAP**



**Dr. Cocep Effendi, *Indonesia***

[Master's in School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India;

Ph.D. in School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India]

Email: [dgeirdap@airdap.org](mailto:dgeirdap@airdap.org)

#### **Director General**

Dr. Cocep Effendi has fifteen years experiences both as activist and as academicians in the area of decentralisation and democratisation. Since 1999, started as chairman of Rector Forum in the West Java Province, he was responsible in ensuring a free and fair election in the province by employing 1000 university students to work as observers in Indonesia's first democratic election after the collapse of the New Order regime. Since then, Dr. Effendi has participated in various capacities to advise national and local government agencies both as professional as well as advisor to the House of Representatives, Regional Representative Assembly, Indonesia's Senate, the Association of Provincial Governments, and Minister for Home Affairs of Republic of Indonesia in formulating policies, drafting government laws and regulations.

Dr. Effendi served as partner of the Asia Foundation in initiating a new reform for local government, programme manager of decentralisation of UNDP and Senior Advisor of the German Technical Cooperation's Advisory Service Support for Decentralisation in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Republic of Indonesia. He also served as Deputy Principal Advisor of the German International Cooperation for Decentralisation as Contribution to Good Governance in the Ministry of Home Affairs as well as Member of the Advisory Group for Indonesia's Provincial Government Association. He was recipient of American Political Science Congressional Fellow to serve in the Sub-Commission on Asia and the Pacific, Commission of International Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington DC, USA and Parliamentary Internship Programme of the House of Representatives in Ottawa, Canada. As an academicians, he also served Islamic University, Indonesia as President, Dean for the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, and Head for the Department of Political Science, for a decade, from 1995 to 2003. Dr. Effendi assumed the position of Director General of CIRDAP from 6 July 2012.



**Mr. Hossein Shahbaz, *Iran***

[Master's in Natural Resources, Tehran University]

Email: [hshahbaz@cirdap.org](mailto:hshahbaz@cirdap.org); [ppd@cirdap.org](mailto:ppd@cirdap.org)

#### **Director, Pilot Projects Division and Director s.i. Research Division**

Prior to joining CIRDAP, he was the Head of Supporting and Servicing Office for Agro-based Industries located in the rural areas, which was also the focal point of country for running a pilot



project sharing with UNIDO to reduce post-harvest fruit and vegetable wastes on farmlands by training how to use drying technology. Accordingly he had a closer cooperation with two NGOs which was the executive manager of Iranian Wood and Furniture Industries Committee and the consultant of Home and Office Furniture Exporters' Union.

He had been working for about 18 years for Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture, in the offices which basically were involved on rural development (RD), especially by leading small-scale industries (SSIs) to be established in rural areas and supporting them through offering facilities. He has written many manuals of small and medium industrial plans projects containing feasibility studies, market research, suitable technology for rural areas, economical and financial indexes such as BEP, IRR, Production Cost, Gant Chart and so on, with a view of helping the people who are going to invest and establish SSI in rural areas.

He is an expert on rural development qualified by international/national institutes and organisations such as Gulef University of Canada, Asian Productivity Organisation (APO), Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO), and NIRD. He is an UNIDO qualified auditor of Industrial Clusters development projects running by CDA (Cluster Development Agent). He has participated in several international/national conferences and workshops and presented his papers on RD and SSIs. He is a member of Supreme Council of Iranian Official Experts (SCIOA). Mr. Hossein Shabbaz joined CIRDAP in March 2009.



**Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran, India**

[Master in Economics, University of Madras, India,  
Ph.D in Economics, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India; Post Graduate Diploma  
in Journalism and Communication, BVB, India]

E-mail: [vasanthi@cirdap.org](mailto:vasanthi@cirdap.org); [vasanthi1359@gmail.com](mailto:vasanthi1359@gmail.com)

#### **Director, Information and Communication Division and Director s.I. Training Division**

An Information, Education and Communication (IEC) expert, Dr. Vasanthi Rajendran has contributed to strengthening youth and rural development documentation in India. Prior to joining CIRDAP, she worked at Centre for Media and Rural Documentation, National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, India. She also worked as Faculty Head, Research, Evaluation, Documentation and Dissemination Division with Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Tamil Nadu, India. Her areas of interest are Rural Wage Employment, Development Communication, Women in Governance and Youth Development.

Dr. Vasanthi has edited over 300 books on rural and youth development and published several articles in reputed journals. During her stay for two and a half decades at NIRD and RGNIYD India, she has conducted over 100 training programmes for national and international participants on various facets of Rural Communication and Youth Development. She participates regularly as a Resource person in South Asian Regional Conferences on 'Promoting Gender Responsive Politics', organised by South Asia Partnership International (SAPI).

Dr. Vasanthi initiated and coordinated the first ever Youth Development Index Project for India and the Indian Youth in New Millennium Study. She also developed India's exclusive Youth Portal and started the first ever Journal of Youth Development 'Endeavour'. She has designed several Capacity Building Modules for Youth viz, on Right to Information, Environment, Poverty Alleviation, Career Counselling etc. and conducted several research studies on youth issues besides compiling a Statistical Profile of Youth in India. Dr. Vasanthi joined CIRDAP in March 2011.





**Major Muhammad Mahbub Alam(Retd), Bangladesh**  
 [MBA, American International University, Bangladesh;  
 Bachelor of Science, University of Chittagong;  
 Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management, Dhaka University]  
 E-mail: mahbub897@cirdap.org

#### **Head, Administration and Finance**

Major Muhammad Mahbub Alam(Retd) joined Bangladesh Army in 1985 and was commissioned in 1987.

During his 23 years of military career he served in a number of units which were tasked to perform different army and national level assignments. He led National ID Card and Voter List preparation project organised by Bangladesh Election Commission and UNDP of Sunamganj district in 2007. He served in prestigious appointments in the Head Quarters of Bangladesh Army and Army Security Organisation. During the service he underwent 10(ten) professional courses/diploma at home and abroad. He worked as United Nations peacekeeper in Somalia, Kuwait and Ivory coast. He had a brief stint in export oriented Opex and Sinha Industries as General Manager (Administration, Human Resource and Compliance).

Major Mahbub joined CIRDAP on 11 July 2013.



**Mr. Shafiqur Rahman, Bangladesh**  
 [Master's in Statistics, Dhaka University]  
 Email: srahman@cirdap.org

#### **Assistant Programme Officer**

Mr. Rahman gained wide experience in the field of sustainable development and environment and related issues, with his active involvement in the multidisciplinary research/action research projects of CIRDAP. An expert-trainer of participatory development programmes, and a resource person in a number of seminars/workshops, Mr. Rahman is trained in statistical methods; community nutrition; research methodology and management of rural development projects; project design, monitoring and evaluation; poverty measurement and analysis; social accounting matrix; general algebraic modelling system; computerised information system; spreadsheet analysis using Lotus 1-2-3; and programming on Cobol and Foxpro. He has authored/cos authored a number of research articles and publications of the Centre. Mr. Rahman worked as a project staff in the project "Food Control Drainage and Irrigation (FCDI) since 1986 prior to his formal joining in CIRDAP in 1991.



**Mr. David Hilton, Bangladesh**  
 [B.S.S. (Hons.), M.S.S. in Govt. & Politics, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh,  
 M.S in Economic Development, Eastern University, USA]  
 Email: dhilton@cirdap.org

#### **Assistant Programme Officer**

Prior to joining CIRDAP, he served as Training Officer for two years and later Research and Evaluation Officer for three years in World Vision of Bangladesh (an international NGO). Worked as



an Intern Consultant in two non-profit organisations, viz. Olde Kensington Redevelopment Corporation and St. Simeon's Community Centre, Philadelphia, USA, and assisted in developing their strategic plan, funding strategy, organisational development etc. His areas of expertise include project feasibility, baseline survey, management, participatory monitoring and evaluation. Experienced as facilitator in Participatory Project Cycle Management and PRA exercises both at home and abroad. He also participated in several workshops, trainings at national and international level. Mr. David has joined CIRDAP in March 1998..



**Mr. Muhammad Shahadat Hossain, Bangladesh**  
[ MBA (Finance)-East West University,  
M.Com (Acct.), CA (cc)]  
Email: shahadat@cirdap.org

#### **Finance Officer**

Mr. Muhammad Shahadat Hossain has Joined CIRDAP as a Finance Officer on 15 April 2008. Previously he worked in a Multinational organisation named Asian Consumer Care (Pvt) Ltd (A joint venture of Dabur International and ACI Ltd), ACI Center, 245 Tejgaon Dhaka-1208. and he worked also PRAN-RFL group As a Assistant Manager(Accounts and Fund Management), PRAN-RFL group is one of the largest Local Food manufacturing company in Bangladesh. His total job experience in Accounts and Finance section for 12 years. He has intensive experience on Budgeting, Financial Planning and Reporting, ratio analysis, fund management, company Law.



**Engr. Md. Walidul Hasnat, Bangladesh**  
[MBA (MIS), Prime University  
M. Sc in Computer Science & Engg. (DIU),  
B.Sc. in Computer Science & Engg. (DUET)]  
Email: hasnat@cirdap.org

#### **Computer Programmer**

Mr. Md. Walidul Hasnat joined CIRDAP as a Computer Programmer on 14 August 2008. He is an IT professional with comprehensive technical skills and expertise on Information Technology, Computer Hardware and Network Management. He is conversant with most of the computer softwares along with essential utility softwares. He has worked in a number of national intuitions/organisations. Before joining CIRDAP, he has worked in SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), Dhaka, Bangladesh as an IT Manager. He also worked at the Prime Minister's Office, Bangladesh as an IT Engineer. He has carried out numerous IT projects and assignments in national and international organisations. He has also experience to prepare Specifications, Tender Documents and Procurement as per Public Procurement Regulation 2003 (PPR03). He has participated in several seminars, workshops and training programmes at national and international level.



**Mr. Safiul Azam, Bangladesh**

[B.Sc. (Hons), M.Sc. in Statistics, Chittagong University]

Email: [sazam@cirdap.org](mailto:sazam@cirdap.org)

#### **Assistant Protocol Officer**

He has a good experience in organising travel and tour, related to international seminar, workshop, conference etc. To accomplish his protocol duties, he has to get in touch with the high-ranking officials and dignitaries at home and abroad. Mr. Azam has to arrange travel facilities for the CIRDAP staff as well as CMC dignitaries. He also has to contact the diplomatic missions in Dhaka for passports, visas and other travel documents for the CIRDAP delegates coming from abroad. Mr. Azam has joined CIRDAP in March 1991.



**Dr. Usharani Boruah, India**

[Ph.D. In Library Science, Moscow State University of Arts And Culture. Russia, Moscow]

Email: [usharani@cirdap.org](mailto:usharani@cirdap.org)

#### **Librarian**

Dr. Usharani Boruah served as a Librarian in various Organisations for more than 8 years. She worked as a Librarian in the Indian Embassy, Moscow and Indian International School Moscow, Russia. She worked as Librarian of the University of Development Alternative (UODA ) Dhaka, Bangladesh and also as Medical Librarian in Apollo Hospitals Dhaka. Dr. Boruah has vast experience in Library Development Education Programmes, Community Development Education Programme, Ethnic Development Educations Programme through Library Education and Policy. Dr. Usharani Boruah joined CIRDAP in July 2007.



## Other Staff-Members

Mr. Samir Kumar Roy	: Senior Secretary (Training)
Mr. Nasim Al-Rashid	: Secretary (Research)
Mr. Shidhartha Sen Gupta	: Property and Supply Assistant
Mr. Mohammad Abu Saleh Siddique	: Publication Assistant
Mr. Md. Akram Ullah	: Cashier
Mr. Deba Datta Chakma	: Secretary to DG
Ms. Najma Yeasmin	: Personnel Assistant
Mr. Minhazul Bari Ahmed	: Computer Operator
Mr. Hari Pada Bhowmik	: Clerk-Typist
Mr. Md. Mustafa Kamal	: Typist
Mr. Shankar Ch. Das	: Technical Operator
Mr. Swapan Kumar Sarker	: Machine Operator
Mr. Md. Manzoor	: Driver
Mr. Shimul Barua	: Driver
Mr. Kallol Barua	: Driver
Mr. Biplob Kumar Dhar	: Driver
Mr. Bishu Chandra Das	: Janitor
Ms. Rezia Begum	: Messenger
Mr. Kazi Sharif Ahmed	: Messenger
Mr. Md. Jahangir Alam	: Bearer-Cook
Mr. Sujit Chandra Das	: Janitor
Mr. Md. Delwar Hossain	: Janitor
Mr. Martin Does	: Watchman
Mr. Md. Abdur Rahman Mollah	: Gardener

## Temporary Staff-members

Mr. Md. Khairul Hasan	: Supervisor (Auditorium)
Mr. Md. Monir Hossain	: Electrician
Mr. Roman Khan	: Bearer
Ms. Parveen Begum	: Cook

## Abbreviations & Acronyms

AHKNCRD&MA	Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development and Municipal Administration	NAETC	Native American Employment and Training Council
AIT	Asia Institute of Technology	NAM SSTC	Non-Aligned Movement South-South Technical Cooperation
ALTA	Agriculture Land Lord and Technical Act	NATP	National Agricultural Technology Project
ALTO	Agricultural Landlord and Tenant Ordinance	NGO	Non-Government Organisation
APERDI	Agricultural Planning Economic and Rural Development Research Institute	NIMSME	National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
APJORD	Asia-Pacific Journal of Rural Development	NIRD	National Institute for Rural Development
BADC	Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation	NLTA	Native Land Trust Act
BARD	Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development	NLTB	Native Land Trust Board
BIHCP	Basic Integrated Health Care Programme	NLTO	Native Land Trust Ordinance
CAPSA	Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture	NSP	National Solidarity Programme
CBPO	Capacity Building of People's Organisation	OTOP	One Tamboon One Product
CDCs	Community Development Councils	PA	Poverty Alleviation
CICC	CIRDAP International Conference Centre	PGDRDM	Post-Graduate Diploma in Rural Development
CLIs	CIRDAP Link Institutions	PPD	Pilot Projects Division
CMCs	CIRDAP Member Countries	PPP	Public Private Partnership
CVDP	Comprehensive Village Development Programme	PRIs	Panchayet Raj Institutions
DAE	Department of Agricultural Extension	RCCRC	Rice and Cash Crop Research Centre
DFID	Department for International Development	RCF	Regional Cooperation Fund
DFP	Directorate of Field Publicity	RD	Rural Development
DSCG	Dept. of Samurahi Commissioner General	RDA	Rural Development Academy
EC	Executive Committee Meeting	RGNIYD	Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	RRDP	Regional and Rural Development Planning
FFS	Farmer's Field School	RSC	Rural School Children
FPSP	For profit Private Service Providers	SAIC	SAARC Information Centre
GC	Governing Council Meeting	SAP	Social Action Programme
GDP	Gross Domestic Production	SDP	Skill Development Programme
GHGs	Green House Gases	SEARCA	Southeast Asian Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture
GIS	Geographic Information System	SERD	Society for Education and Research Development
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	SOCSEA	Sub-Regional Office of CIRDAP in South-East Asia
HLP	Horizontal Learning Programme	TAG	Technical Advisory Group
ICD	Information and Communication Division	TD	Training Division
ICT	Information and Communication Technology	TFNet	Tropical Fruit Network
IEC	Information Education and Communication	UCV	Unimproved Capital Value
IJSG	International Jute Study Group	UP	Union Parishad
IPM	Integrated Pest Management	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
IRD	Integrated Rural Development	USM	Universiti Sains Malaysia
IUs	Implementing Units	VOs	Village Organisations
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency	WCARRD	World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development
LG	Local Government		
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry		
MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development		
MoYAS	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports		
MSI	Management System International		



# REGIONAL IRD NETWORK

## Link institutions and Contact Ministries of CIRDAP

<i>Country</i>	<i>Link Institutions</i>	<i>Contact Ministries</i>
<b>Afghanistan</b>	Afghanistan Institute for Rural Dev. (AIRD) Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Dev., Nola Bagh Street, Darul Aman Road, Kabul City	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), Nola Bagh Street Darul Aman Road, Kabul City
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARC) Kathari, Comilla - 3500	Rural Development and Cooperatives Division Ministry of Local Govt., Rural Development and Cooperatives, Dhaka
<b>Fiji</b>	Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management , 1 Regional House, Knolly Street, Suva	Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management 1 Regional House, Knolly Street, Suva
<b>India</b>	National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) Rejendranagar Hyderabad-500030	Ministry of Rural Development Krishi Bhavan New Delhi 1100 01
<b>Indonesia</b>	Directorate General of Community and Village Empowerment (DGCVE) Ministry of Home Affairs, Jakarta-12510	Ministry of Home Affairs Medan Merdeka Utara 7 Jakarta10110
<b>Iran</b>	Agricultural Planning Economic and Rural Development Research Institute (APERDRI), Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture No.5, Roodasr, Street, Aban Jonoht, Tehran	Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture 7th Floor, Jihad-e-Agriculture Building Taleghani Street, Tehran
<b>Laos PDR</b>	Department of Planning and Cooperative Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry Vientiane	Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry P.O. Box 811 Vientiane
<b>Malaysia</b>	Institute of Rural Advancement (INFRA), Ministry of Rural and Regional Development, Lot 2A, Persiaran Institusi, 43000 Kajang, Selangor Darul Ehsan	Ministry of Rural and Regional Development Level 30, No.47, Persiaran Perdana Precinct 4, 62100 Putrajaya
<b>Myanmar</b>	Department of Agricultural Planning Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Building 15, Nay Pyi Taw	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation Building 15, Nay Pyi Taw
<b>Nepal</b>	Local Development Training Academy (LDTA) P.O. Box - 11980 Jewelekhel, Lalitpur	Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development Government of Nepal, Shri Mahal Pulchowk, Lalitpur
<b>Pakistan</b>	Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development & Municipal Administration (AHKNCRD&MA) Park Road, Chak Street, Islamabad	Establishment Division, Ministry of Establishment Block-C , Pak Secretariat, Islamabad
<b>Philippines</b>	Bureau of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Development Department of Agrarian Reform, 3rd Floor, DAR Building Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City	Department of Agrarian Reform 3rd Floor, DAR Building, Elliptical Road Diliman, Quezon City
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	Heonar Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI), 114 Wijerama Mawatha P.O. Box 1522, Colombo	Ministry of Agricultural Govijana Maudireya 80/5, Rajamalwatha Avenue, Battaramulla, Colombo
<b>Thailand</b>	National FAO Committee Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Royal Thai Government, 3 Rajadamnern Nok road Ban Phanforn Pransakhon, Bangkok 10200
<b>Vietnam</b>	International Cooperation Department Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development 2 Ngoc Ha Street, Bach Thao, Hanoi	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development 2, Ngoc Ha Street, Ba Dinh, Hanoi



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