



CIRDAP – NEDAC International Collaborative  
Training Programme On

## **Startups, Technology, Entrepreneurship and Partnerships for Vibrant Agri Cooperatives**



**BANGKOK, THAILAND**



**JULY 21–23, 2025**

**JOINTLY ORGANISED BY CIRDAP AND NEDAC**

## Introduction

Agriculture is undergoing a transformative shift driven by innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship. Agri-cooperatives are crucial in ensuring economic sustainability, food security, and community empowerment. However, they must embrace technological advancements, entrepreneurial approaches, and strategic collaborations to stay competitive and resilient.

This international training program, **“Startups, Technology Entrepreneurship and Partnerships for Vibrant Agri Cooperatives”**, is meticulously designed to equip Agri and rural professionals with cutting-edge insights, practical tools, and strategic frameworks to drive innovation within Agri-cooperatives. Participants will explore the intersection of startups, technology entrepreneurship, and partnerships, ensuring a future-ready cooperative ecosystem that thrives on efficiency, profitability, and inclusivity.

## Emergence of startups and Role of Technology and entrepreneurship

Agri-Startups have made a significant mark by bringing in innovative solutions revolutionizing the entire agri-supply chain. Since these Startups are actively working to weed out the challenges in the Agri-food ecosystem, Agri-Cooperatives are a perfect partner for taking their solutions forward. Both Agri-Startups & Agri-Cooperatives can greatly benefit from mutual collaboration.

Technology is certainly defining and redirecting modern day entrepreneurship. With AI, machine learning, Blockchain & IoT, entrepreneurs are able to easily diagnose issues, understand customer's pain points and offer tailor made solutions. Same is the case with Agri-entrepreneurship.

Be it precision farming, AI monitoring farm assessing tools, farm automation, data analytics tools informing important farm decisions, online skill development platforms, supply chain or digital payment systems, technology has only enhanced Agri-operations.



## About CIRDAP

The Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) is an intergovernmental organization established in 1979 at the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. It aims to promote regional cooperation and development in integrated rural development and poverty alleviation across its member countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The headquarters of CIRDAP is located in Dhaka, Bangladesh. It comprises 15 member countries, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, IR Iran, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand & Vietnam. Its mission is to support member countries in developing policies, strategies, and programs for integrated rural development (IRD) while enhancing the capacity of rural institutions. CIRDAP focuses on several key areas, including poverty alleviation, sustainable development, community participation, knowledge sharing and research, and capacity building for rural development institutions. CIRDAP fosters collaboration among governments, NGOs, and international development organizations to address rural challenges and share best practices for economic rejuvenation and improved livelihoods.

## About NEDAC

The Network for the Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and the Pacific (NEDAC) is a unique regional forum linking 21 apex cooperative organizations in 12 countries. It was set up in 1991 by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) on the recommendation of the 1990 ICA regional conference of cooperative ministers.

With 10 cooperative organizations from nine Asian countries as members, NEDAC now has 21 cooperative member organizations in 12 countries. The NEDAC member organizations in Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand represent three million agricultural cooperatives which play a crucial role in improving the livelihoods of 150 million rural households.

NEDAC sensitizes governments in the region to the need for a key role for agricultural cooperatives in promoting agricultural and rural development to ensure rural food and livelihood security for hundreds of millions of people in Asia and the Pacific

## Program Highlights

The program is designed on experiential learning with experiences and case studies narrated by the entrepreneurs and practitioners. The program is structured to provide an immersive learning experience through diverse engagement formats, ensuring holistic capacity-building.

### Key highlights:

- Expert-Led Keynote Sessions
- Technology & Digital Innovations
- Case Studies & Global Best Practices

### Panel Discussions

- Networking & Collaborative Opportunities

## Benefits of Participation

- Understand How Startups & technology help Co-operatives and how to leverage them
- Gain Expert Knowledge
- Enhance Technological Awareness
- Develop Entrepreneurial Skills and Entrepreneurial Opportunities
- Expand Professional Networks
- Improve Leadership & Decision-Making Capabilities

This program is ideal for professionals and stakeholders passionate about strengthening Agri-cooperatives and integrating technology and entrepreneurship in agricultural value chains. Participants include:

- Agri-cooperative leaders and managers
- Agripreneurs and startup founders
- Policymakers and government officials
- Rural development professionals
- Academicians and researchers
- Financial institutions and investors

## Participants profile

## Course Fee:

- \$600 USD per participant – Single occupancy
- \$450 USD per participant – Twin sharing accommodation
- \$300 USD per participant – For Thailand-based participants (excluding accommodation)

## Inclusions:

- Accommodations at 3-star hotel
- Meet and Greet at airport
- Return Airport and Hotel Transfers
- 04 Night's accommodation (20-23rd July) – Bangkok – Standard rooms (Inc. Arrival and Departure day)
- 04 Breakfast at hotel
- 03 Days Full day Conference with 2 Tea / Coffee break with lunch
- 03 Dinner at Indian restaurant in Bangkok (2+1 Menu)
- 01 Dinner @ Chao phraya dinner cruise

## Exclusions:

- Please note that air travel has to be met by participants and sponsors

## Bank Account Details:

### Course fee may be deposited to the following Bank Account

Beneficiary A/C Name : **CIRDAP**

Beneficiary A/C Number : **1802013826**

Type of Account : **USD (Current)**

Bank Name : **Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC**

Bank Branch : **Motijheel Branch**

Bank Address : **Hadi Mansion, 2 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh**

Bank Swift Code No. : **CCEYBDDH**

**Contact Points:** All nominations may be sent on or before **7<sup>th</sup> July 2025** to Mr. F.A.M Zakirul Huq, at [aocirdap@cirdap.org](mailto:aocirdap@cirdap.org).

**Any other Clarifications may be Sought from**

**Mr. F.A.M Zakirul Huq**

Officer In Charge LKMD

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# Bangkok, Thailand



Bangkok, is the capital city and the heart of Thailand's culture. This unique city is the hub for education, technology, trade, and many other global issues. Located at the center of South East Asia, with its excellent infrastructure like Chulalongkorn University and Mahidol University, Bangkok has become a major city for education and student exchange programs.

Not only is Bangkok valuable as a professional city, it has much to offer in culture and history as well. The Grand Palace, Wat Arun, and Wat Phra Kaew Palace are monumental symbols of Thailand's economy soaring in globalization as depicted in the modern skyscrapers built in Bangkok. The City has grown into a melting pot of businesses, trade and tourism. Chatuchak market and traditional floating markets are some of the examples indicating Bangkok's open hand to foreign investment.

Innovation and development are Bangkok's priorities. Sustainability, digital transformation and Agriculture are some of the sectors being boosted by the high number of installing social business and startup companies. State-of-the-art facilities and their abundance help businesses with their conferences or training sessions which in return fosters networking between different fields.