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Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Association (APAARI)

Guidelines for Documenting Success Story for APAARI

The success story should be an account of an event or series of events. It should broadly describe the challenges, actors, solutions, and outcomes in terms of economic and social benefits to the society by describing scientific approach, the impact and the lessons learnt.

The story should be supported with facts and figures to make it more credible. In case information from other sources is used; due credit should be given to them.

The Standard and format outlined below should be adopted though the story may be edited on the basis of mutual consent.

A. General Guidelines

- a. APAARI invites success stories in agriculture and related fields which have proven impacts of usage of technologies/innovations/communication strategies/policies, *etc.* The selection of stories will be made on the basis of merit, originality and importance by a panel of reviewers.
- b. APAARI will provide a suitable honorarium to the author(s)
- c. APAARI will bear the cost of printing and dissemination.
- d. APAARI and Author(s) will have joint copyright of the document.
- e. Success story should be completed within 3-6 months after signing an Agreement with APAARI specifying the TOR
- f. Success story should be between 40-60 pages (A4 single spacing)
- g. APAARI may also contact the researchers directly to document the success stories.

B. Technical Guidelines

1. Title

- a. Title should be short but indicative of the subject and context of the story.
- b. It must be attractive to the readers beyond academia and easily understood by the civil society in general.

2. Introduction

- a. Highlight the importance of topic by providing some facts and figures supporting the agricultural importance of the topic.

3. Challenges

- a. Describe the challenges, problems, issues, opportunities of the situation/issue being addressed.
- b. Highlight those who are affected by the situation/issue, the inherent problems they are facing
- c. Mention the stakeholder(s) (research partners, scientists, students, community, farmers, policy-makers, private sector, NGOs, FOs, media persons, etc.) who have been the key actors in the story.

4. Initiatives

- a. Describe what the researchers/partners have done to address the challenge(s).
- b. Discuss the research and developmental strategy and timeline of actions.
- c. How were the different researchers engaged in or consulted in the research/development processes?

5. Major outputs/

- a. Describe the major outputs/outcomes emanated from the research and/or development.
- b. What were the key research outputs such as recommendations regarding innovation, technologies, processes, concepts, models, trials, research papers, other publications etc.?
- c. What kind of impact of the innovation system was observed – incremental¹, radical² transformational³ and/or paradigm⁴
- d. Provide various aspects of research and extension which led to its success.
- e. Provide evidence of the outputs/outcomes described in the story by referring links to scientific journal, articles, reports, and other references that document the research.
- f. Policy support, R&D and extension mechanisms responsible for the success in the region.
- g. Assessment of positive effects and the areas of future concern.
- h. Specify different stakeholders who benefitted from the research and development initiative and how is the knowledge generated has been or being used by different beneficiaries (research partners, scientists, students, community, farmers, policy-makers, private sector, NGOs, FOs, media persons etc.) to change their practice, policy, investments, etc.

6. Impact

- a. Provide a short summary of the actual change (on knowledge, attitude, skills, practice, investment, policy, publicity) that took place and how this could lead to

¹*Incremental: Incrementally improves social, economic and environmental impact within system limits*

²*Radical: Significantly expands economic, social and environmental impact in a specific sub-sector or existing market segment*

³*Transformational: Unlocks new economic, social and environmental impact possibilities across the agricultural sector*

⁴*Paradigm: Reframed global limits to growth that potentially affects all sectors of economy*

Source: Hall (2016) Framework for Exploring Different Models of Innovation and Partnership. In: Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-Food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific, APAARI, Bangkok, pp 33-39.

large-scale impact as system approach and significant progress to achieve the objectives.

- b. Provide quantitative measures, where possible and use simple graphs or tables to illustrate a point in a simple way which is understandable to all the stakeholders.
- c. Extent of benefits and the impact on overall economy at the national or regional level.
- d. Reflect the secrets of successes.

7. Lessons learnt

- a. What did you learn in this process? the difficulty/resistance or challenge faced?
- b. How did you overcome the above?
- c. If you were to do it all over again, what different approach you will adopt?

8. Supporting narrations and images

- a. Short interviews or accounts of main beneficiaries (of any category), may be more than one but not too many. This should include the details of person who presented the account (name, designation/position, occupation, location), how research/technology/innovation related to the topic of story has made differences (social, educational, economic, innovative, livelihoods, behavior, enabling environment, policies, investments, etc.) in their life and society in general.
- b. Short interviews or accounts may be presented in box.
- c. Provide photographs of high resolution as an evidence to support the major outcomes, with a short but clear legend/caption. The photograph should capture the individual/community/group/process/product/innovation/landscape/seascape, etc. in the context of the story.

9. Recommendations on possible mechanism/arrangement for the research/extension in Asia-Pacific region or any specific region

- a. On the basis of your experience, challenges faced, and lessons learnt, describe the recommendations to replicate the success in other regions

10. Additional information

Please provide additional relevant information, such as:

- a. List of all research partners and/or donors who supported the work.
- b. Links to supporting materials, such as news items, photos and presentations in the form of slides.
- c. Contact person for this story (name, position, email address).
- d. Other necessary information you want to add.

Interested potential authors should contact fai.collins@apaari.org; apaari@apaari.org

NB These guidelines are rather indicative and may not be followed *sensu stricto*

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