

Guidelines to participants

Due to the time constraint, you are requested to prepare your powerpoint presentation very focused and present it within 10 minutes so as to make room for other participants. Similarly, prepare your brief note (5-8 pages) dealing the aspects only as mentioned below. Please send your presentations and brief note in advance by email so that we will include in the workshop reading material.

You are requested to share the following **two** inputs in the workshop:

- 1.A 5-8 page brief note on Status on ICT/ICM in AR4D in your country (not more than 10 pages)**
- 2.A 10-minute powerpoint presentation on the status of ICT/ICM in AR4D based on your brief note (followed by 5 minutes discussion)**

Please cover the following aspects in your brief note and presentation as per applicability to your situation:

1. Strengthening Agricultural Information Systems in the Asia-Pacific Region

- a. In your view, what are the gaps in the agricultural information system in your country
- b. How would you like APARIS to support your information systems? What do you expect from a regional agricultural information system like APARIS
- c. How would you like to strengthen and contribute to the APARIS at the regional level
- d. What are your suggestions to improve agricultural information and knowledge services to small holder resource poor farmers in the Asia-Pacific region?

2. Status of ICT/ICM in the NARS

- a. Status of ICT/ICM in the NARS in your country: Use of ICT/ICM in the agricultural research, extension organizations and agricultural universities and related institutions in the country; Infrastructure- Availability of Agricultural Content, Hardware, Software, Networking, Connectivity (Internet access, Telephones access etc.) and Human Resources; Information Resources across the NARS–Websites, Information Systems, Databases, Knowledge Repositories, Open Archives, Communication Services etc. Use of new ICT tools (web 2.0, social networking etc.)
- b. ICT/ICM Organisation & Policies in NARS: Role and functions of ICT Centre / Unit in your NARS; ICT/ICM strategies or Communication Strategies in your

organisation; Investments in ICT/ICM for AR4D; Policies that support rural and agricultural development-mention important Government plans related to Internet, Cellular Telephone, Radio and TV that support agricultural development in your country.

- c. ICT/ICM use in Farm Advisory and Extension Services by the NARS, Government Institutions, NGOs and Private Sector Agencies in the country. Use of ICT tools by farmers, extension workers and researchers in the country. Mention notable ICT-enabled agricultural advisory services in your country that uses community information centres, networks, portals etc. Avoid giving a huge list.

3. Application of ICT/ICM in the NARS

- a. As an apex agricultural research body, how your Organisation is using ICT/ICM in the following areas: (as applicable to your situation)
 - Research Data Management
 - Scientific and Technical Information
 - Research Management
 - Agricultural Extension and Outreach Services
 - Agricultural Market related information
 - Agricultural Education
 - ARD Organization and Management such as Financial and Personnel Management
 - Agricultural Library, Information and Documentation Services
 - Messaging and Communication
 - Publicity and Mass Communication
- b. Mention notable ICT/ICM initiatives / projects in the above areas by the NARS (with the support of Government or donor agencies). Avoid giving a huge list. Mention notable and important initiatives only.

4. Challenges for ICT/ICM within your NARS

Suggestive issues:

- a. Policy Support, Coordination between organizations, Investment
- b. Your institute's environment to adopt ICT/ICM
- c. Infrastructure, Maintaining Information Standards, Content Issues
- d. Human Resource Development, Suitable Professionals, Training and Skills
- e. Any other issues.

5. Future ICT/ICM plans of the NARS

Briefly mention the titles of the future activities / projects and implementing agencies.

For more information, please refer the Status Report on ICT in AR4D in the Asia-Pacific Region (especially pages 114 – 130) from the APAARI website at:
<http://www.apaari.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/2004-statreport-ict-icm-ard.pdf>