

APAARI as a Regional Champion for South and Southeast Asia

The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) serves as a regional champion for plant health and biosecurity in South and Southeast Asia. By promoting collaboration among national agricultural research systems, APAARI plays a crucial role in strengthening phytosanitary capacities, advocating policy alignment, and facilitating knowledge-sharing among stakeholders. Through its partnerships with EUPHRESCO and other global initiatives, APAARI supports regional efforts in safeguarding plant health, ensuring food security, and promoting sustainable agricultural trade.

Status of Projects, 2024

Based on the Expressions of Interest (EOI) and Letters of Commitment (LOC) received, the respective LOCs have been shared with the EIII team for further coordination and implementation. The 465_Data Exchange project includes commitments from Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam; the 466_Sea Container project has received an LOC from Iran; and the 476_Entomological Radar project has commitments from Bangladesh, Nepal, and Samoa. These LOCs will facilitate the next steps in project planning and execution in collaboration with EIII. The project works will commence in the month of June, 2025

Identification of Research Priorities and Project Submission to EUPHRESCO III, 2025

Through extensive surveys, regional and national consultations, and international stakeholder engagement, APAARI has identified five key research topics relevant to plant health and trade compliance. These topics have been submitted to EUPHRESCO III for consideration in the 2025 research cycle. The selected topics are:

- 1. **Integrative approach to streamline trade compliance** for fruits and vegetables from Asia, focusing on fruit fly management.
- 2. Risk assessment of anthracnose affecting tree and chili plants.
- 3. **Bio-rational management of the invasive rugose spiraling whitefly** in coconut and banana.
- 4. Identification and characterization of host plant resistance in maize against fall armyworm.
- 5. Eco-friendly mitigation of Phytophthora root rot in vegetables using biostimulants and biopesticides.



Call for Expression of Interest

We invite interested institutions and researchers to submit their expressions of interest (Annex 1), particularly in relation to the five priority topics listed above. Kindly contact <u>euphresco@apaari.org</u> for more details