

Newsletter

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1. Editorial

The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) continues to strengthen agricultural research, innovation, and capacity development across the region in close collaboration with its members and partners. Through strategic projects, targeted capacity development initiatives, vibrant communities of practice, and knowledge exchange activities, APAARI supports National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS), higher education institutions, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in advancing resilient, inclusive, and sustainable agrifood systems.

APAARI's thematic focus areas—including pesticide residue mitigation, phytosanitary compliance, agroecology, biotechnology and bioresources, and Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS)—remain central to addressing

regional priorities. APAARI's thematic focus areas—including pesticide residue mitigation, phytosanitary compliance, agroecology, biotechnology and bioresources, and Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS)—remain central to addressing regional priorities. As we advance the development of APAARI's new Strategic Plan, we are also deepening our engagement through the Global Forum on Agricultural Innovation and Resilience (GFAiR), CGIAR-led initiatives, and other international platforms to ensure that Asia-Pacific perspectives continue to shape global agricultural research and innovation agendas.

This edition of the newsletter highlights how APAARI members and partners continue to contribute to agricultural transformation across the Asia-Pacific region. Through institutional updates, project and programme highlights, research insights, success stories, and collaborative initiatives, it showcases the collective impact of our network in advancing sustainable, resilient, and inclusive agrifood systems. We hope you find this edition informative and inspiring, and we welcome your feedback as we continue to strengthen regional collaboration, knowledge exchange, and innovation for the benefit of the region.



2. Institutional Updates

2.1. Executive Committee Meeting



APAARI convened two Special Executive Committee Meetings (ECM) on 22 January 2026 and 25 March 2026.

These meetings focused on key organizational matters, including deliberations on the relocation of APAARI's legal seat from Thailand to Cambodia.

2.2. New Executive Members



Dr. Gary Jahn, Head of the CGIAR Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific, representing CGIAR on the APAARI Executive Committee. With over 30 years of experience, he brings strong expertise in agricultural development and food systems.



Dr. MinKyeong Kim, Director of the International Technology Cooperation Center at RDA, Republic of Korea, joins the Executive Committee, bringing over 20 years of expertise in soil science, climate change, agricultural research, and international cooperation.

2.3. Projects and Programs

Webinar Series Launch – International Year of Women Farmers 2026

APAARI launched a special webinar series to celebrate the International Year of Women Farmers 2026. The first session, “Recognizing Women Farmers in Research and Extension,” was held on 30 March 2026, bringing together diverse global perspectives.



The discussion highlighted critical insights, including:

- The continued “invisibility” of women farmers despite their central role in agri-food systems
- The need for gender-responsive research and stronger science–policy linkages
- Moving beyond gender audits toward meaningful institutional and management reforms
- Ensuring extension services are inclusive, accessible, and tailored to women’s needs
- Persistent inequalities in access to land, credit, and extension services
- The significant contributions of women—up to 50% of the agricultural workforce and 60–80% of food production in many rural areas
- The potential to increase yields and reduce hunger by closing gender gaps
- The importance of strengthening women’s roles to enhance climate resilience and sustainability

Project: Strengthening Phytosanitary Compliance and Public Private Partnerships to Boost Seed Trade in the Asia-Pacific Region (STDF PG 755)

Luang Prabang, Lao PDR | 08 January 2026 – A one-day Capacity Building Workshop on the International Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM), focusing on phytosanitary certification (ISPM 12) and on international movement of seeds (ISPM 38) for public and private stakeholders in Lao PDR.

[Read More: Boosting Plant Health: Lao PDR Strengthens Capacities in Phytosanitary Certification and Safe International Movement of Seeds](#)



Jakarta, Indonesia — 12 February 2026 — Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) convened an expert consultation with its technical partners Asia & Pacific Seed Alliance (APSA), International Seed Federation (ISF), CropLife Asia (CLA) and American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) to develop and finalize the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the “APSA Phytosanitary Expert Consultation (PEC)”.

[Read More: Expert Consultation Develops Terms of Reference \(ToR\) for “APSA Phytosanitary Expert Consultation \(PEC\) Platform](#)

26 February 2026 – Manila, Philippines. A national capacity-building workshop on electronic phytosanitary certification (ePhyto) was successfully conducted in the Philippines from 24–26 February 2026, accelerating the country’s transition toward faster, more efficient digital agricultural trade.

[Read More: Advancing ePhyto Implementation in the Philippines](#)

1 April 2026 – Cambodia – A one-day workshop titled “Capacity Building Workshop on ISPM 38 for Plant Quarantine Officers in Cambodia” was organized by the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI).

[Press Release: Capacity Building Workshop on ISPM 38 for Plant Quarantine Officers in Cambodia](#)

Pokhara, Nepal — A two-day workshop titled “Joint Public–Private Workshops on Private Sector Investments in Seed Health Testing and Implementation of ISPM 45” was organized by the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) on 3–4 June 2026.

[Read More: Joint Public–Private Workshop on Private Sector Investments in Seed Health Testing and ISPM 45 Implementation](#)

2.4. Reports and Documentations

Project: Southeast Asia Regional Economic Corridor and Connectivity Project (SEARECC), Sub - Component 3.1

[Read More: Quarterly Progress Report](#)

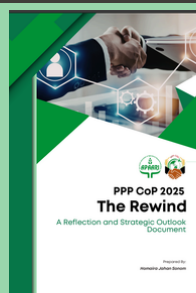
ABCoP



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3. Highlights From the APAARI Network

3.1. AARINENA Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of AARINENA met in İzmir, Türkiye, on 14–15 May 2026 under the leadership of Dr. Mustafa Altuğ Atalay, President of AARINENA and Director General of TAGEM. The meeting brought together Executive Committee members and representatives from regional and international organizations to review progress, discuss strategic priorities, and strengthen cooperation in agricultural research and innovation. APAARI was represented by Ms. Samitha Haldar, Membership and Partnership Manager, who shared updates on APAARI's regional initiatives and explored areas for future collaboration with AARINENA and partner organizations.

Read More: [AARINENA Executive Committee Meeting Held in İzmir, Türkiye/](#)

3.2. GFAiR Regional Fora and Steering Committee Meeting

APAARI participated in the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAiR) Regional Fora and Steering Committee Meeting held in Antalya, Türkiye. The meeting brought together representatives from the Regional Fora across Africa, Asia-Pacific, the Americas, Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus, and the Near East and North Africa, along with key global partners, to discuss new approaches for strengthening agrifood research and innovation systems. APAARI was represented by Mr. Manish Rai, who contributed the Asia-Pacific regional perspective and reaffirmed APAARI's commitment to fostering stronger partnerships and collaborative action for advancing resilient and inclusive agrifood research and innovation systems.

Read More: [Assessing new ways to accelerate more effective and equitable agrifood research and innovation systems - GFAiR Regional Fora and Steering Committee meeting](#)



3.3. Land Tenure & Climate Change Case Studies:

As part of its pilot initiative, the Collective Action on Land Tenure and Climate Change (CA LTCC) continues to advance secure land rights and good land governance within the climate agenda, from national to global levels. In this effort, ANGOC and the Land Portal Foundation collaborate with APAARI, the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities (GATC), and the Youth Initiative for Land in Africa (YILAA), bringing together regional and international expertise.

Building on this collaboration, the Asian Regional Workshop on Mainstreaming Land Rights and Climate Change in Agricultural Food Systems, held in Manila on 11–12 February 2026, showcased key use cases from different countries. These studies illustrate how secure land rights support climate adaptation and sustainable agriculture.

1. *Bangladesh – From Insecurity to Resilience*

Explores how land rights help communities, especially women, adapt to climate change. Unequal land tenure and governance limit long-term land management and increase climate vulnerability.

[Read more](#)

2. *India – Land Tenure: The Missing Link*

Documents small settlements in Andhra Pradesh facing droughts and cyclones, highlighting community-led strategies to manage climate risks through improved land rights and resource access.

[Read more](#)

3. *Indonesia – Structural Violence Against Women Farmers*

Shows how women in Lumajang and Bulukumba face multiple climate threats compounded by unequal land tenure and gender-biased inheritance, affecting productivity and livelihoods.

[Read more](#)

4. *Nepal – Sustainable Land Use through Secured Land Rights*

Highlights riverbank communities in Dang District restoring degraded land and building climate resilience using soil conservation, intercropping, and climate-smart practices despite informal tenure challenges.

[Read more](#)

5. *Philippines – Indigenous-Led Ecosystem Restoration*

Documents Indigenous Peoples in Mt. Kalatungan, Bukidnon, protecting forests and restoring ecosystems after displacement, emphasizing the link between land rights and climate action.

[Read more](#)

3.4. ILRI Updates: Advancing Livestock and Food Systems in East and Southeast Asia

Over the past few months, the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) has strengthened regional initiatives in food security, climate-smart livestock, poultry strategies, food safety, antimicrobial resistance, and zoonotic disease prevention. These updates provide valuable insights and lessons for APAARI members engaged in research, policy, and development programs.



1. [Future Food Security Dialogue, India](#)

Agricultural leaders and policymakers came together to discuss strategies for building resilient food systems in India, focusing on sustainable production, risk management, and stakeholder collaboration.

Key takeaway: Multi - stakeholder dialogue strengthens the capacity to address future food security challenges.

2. [Livestock and Climate Solutions Hub – Asia](#)

This regional platform introduces climate-smart livestock solutions, providing knowledge, tools, and networks to support farmers and policymakers in

adapting livestock systems to climate change.

Key takeaway: Regional collaboration accelerates adoption of sustainable livestock practices.

3. [Support for Lao National Poultry Strategy 2026–2035](#)

ILRI supports the Government of Laos to develop a long-term poultry strategy, aiming to improve productivity, enhance nutrition, and strengthen farmer livelihoods while ensuring disease prevention.

Key takeaway: Strategic planning lays the foundation for resilient and sustainable poultry sectors.

4. [Vietnam Food Safety 2026–2030 under One Health framework](#)

Vietnam outlined priorities for food safety by integrating human, animal, and environmental health, recognizing the interconnections of public health and livestock management.

Key takeaway: A One Health approach ensures safer, more resilient food systems.

5. [CGIAR SAAF Co-Design Workshops, Vietnam](#)

Workshops engaged farmers, researchers, and policymakers to co-design agricultural research priorities, ensuring that solutions address real-world challenges.

Key takeaway: Collaborative research planning increases relevance and adoption of innovations.

6. [Antimicrobial Resistance Prevention, Uttar Pradesh, India](#)

ILRI conducted studies to guide interventions that reduce antimicrobial resistance in livestock systems, a key threat to public health.

Key takeaway: Evidence-based strategies are critical for sustainable livestock production and safeguarding human health.

7. [Zoonotic Disease Prevention in Vietnam](#)

Initiatives focus on reducing disease risks from wildlife-livestock-human interactions, particularly in captive wildlife farming systems.

Key takeaway: Preventing zoonotic diseases protects communities and ecosystems alike.

8. [*ASCgg Phase II: Scaling Poultry Genetics Gains, Southeast Asia*](#)

The program expands improved poultry breeds to enhance productivity, resilience, and farmer income across Southeast Asia. Key takeaway: Genetics-based interventions can significantly boost regional livestock productivity.

9. [*FarmVetCare App & Biosecurity Training, Vietnam*](#)

Farmers are empowered with digital tools and practical biosecurity training, enabling better animal health management and farm productivity. Key takeaway: Technology and capacity building together improve livestock management and resilience. ILRI's work demonstrates that integrated livestock solutions—combining genetics, digital tools, biosecurity, research, and policy interventions—strengthen food security, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods. These experiences provide actionable lessons and collaborative opportunities for APAARI members across the region.

Read More: [ILRI East and Southeast Asia](#).

3.5. Spotlight on ACASA: Atlas of Climate Adaptation in South Asian Agriculture

The Atlas of Climate Adaptation in South Asian Agriculture (ACASA) is a flagship initiative of the CIMMYT-Borlaug Institute for South Asia (BISA) and represents the first climate adaptation atlas for South Asian agriculture. ACASA highlights the collaborative spirit and scientific contributions of national agricultural research systems across the region, providing policymakers, researchers, and practitioners with critical insights on climate-resilient agricultural practices. ACASA is co-developed and co-owned by BISA, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC), and Natural Resources Management Centre (NRMC), Sri Lanka. The initiative is financially supported by the Gates Foundation and technically supported by the University of Florida, Columbia University, and University

of Washington. ACASA serves as a region-wide resource on climate adaptation strategies, demonstrating how coordinated research and collaboration across countries can strengthen climate-resilient agriculture in South Asia. Members can leverage the atlas to inform policy, program design, and research priorities in their own countries and regions.

Explore the platform: [ACASA](#)

3.6. CABI launches Global Partnership for Pesticide Risk Reduction



18 May 2026, Wallingford, UK – [CABI](#) and its partners will launch the “Global Partnership for Pesticide Risk Reduction” tomorrow, bringing together leading stakeholders from the public and private sector to advance a shared commitment to address pesticide risks worldwide.

CABI's Chief Scientist, Dr. Ulrich Kuhlmann, said: “Reducing pesticide risks is an urgent global issue and coordinated action can deliver positive results. No single country or organization can address the issue alone – it requires collaboration across the food value chain. CABI is convening this Global Partnership, bringing its expertise in pesticide risk reduction and sustainable pest management, to offer concrete solutions. If we act together now, we can create safer, sustainable food systems where human health and the environment are protected.”

Read More: [CABI launches Global Partnership for Pesticide Risk Reduction](#)

3.7. World Health Day Celebrations, 2026

Agricultural farms in Meghalaya, India serve as vital spaces for rural Tribal women farmers to engage in discussion about healthcare (Dr Nandaris Marwein & Dr Melodynia Marpna). Rural women in India, especially those engaged in agriculture, face challenges such as physical strain, limited access to healthcare, poor nutrition, and lack of health awareness. Despite various government health interventions, such as antenatal care services and supplementary nutrition schemes, women farmers often overlook their own health needs in favor

those of their families. Long working hours and lack of childcare further complicate their ability to provide proper care and nutrition, leading to issues such as mothers and children spending long hours in the fields, undernourishment, and difficulties in maintaining hygiene and adequate supervision.

Therefore, an initiative was undertaken by the Department of Public Health Social Work, School of Social Work, in collaboration with the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics focusing on the health of tribal women farmers. This is a three-phase initiative, in which the first phase focuses on understanding the issues, the second phase focuses on community action, and the final phase focuses on the intervention planning and implementation.

To commence the first phase of the initiative, 7 April 2026 was selected, as it coincided with the celebration of World Health Day. An interactive discussion on maternal health and nutrition was conducted on an agricultural farm guided by this year's theme and the sub-theme “Īng Lyngkha i Mei”, which translates to “Our Mothers’ House on the Agricultural Farm”. This programme was held at Lumdiengsai Village under the Mawryngkneng Community and Rural Development Block in East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya. The discussion brought together faculty members, students, and mothers from the village, creating an open and participatory space for dialogue



Several important issues were discussed, with particular emphasis on health, maternal health, food habits, teenage pregnancy and cleanliness. The mothers showed receptive and eager to learn and adopt positive changes to improve their health.



The initiative highlighted the importance of collaboration between academic institutions and communities in addressing local health challenges. It also reinforced the need for continued engagement, regular awareness programmes, and capacity-building efforts to improve maternal and child health outcomes in rural areas.

Conducting the session on the agricultural farm reflected the connection between agriculture, food systems and public health. As most of the participants depended on agriculture for their livelihood, the discussions explored their indigenous food systems, during which they shared insights on the importance of locally available nutritious foods in reducing malnutrition. The interaction encouraged community members to recognize how agriculture and nutrition-focused farming practices can contribute to healthier living and improved community health outcomes.

As a way forward, the Department of Public Health Social Work, School of Social Work, and the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics at Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong, Meghalaya, will continue to work on the second and final phases of the initiative.



3.8. Bangladesh Observes International Day of Plant Health 2026

Dhaka, Bangladesh | 13 May 2026 – Bangladesh marked the International Day of Plant Health 2026 with a hybrid national event

on the theme "Plant Biosecurity for Food Security and Nutrition: Bangladesh Perspective." The programme was jointly organized by the Bangladesh Phytopathological Society (BPS), CABI Bangladesh, and Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University (SAU).

The event brought together researchers, policymakers, quarantine officials, international organizations, and academics to discuss the critical role of plant biosecurity in safeguarding food security, nutrition, biodiversity, agricultural trade, and farmers' livelihoods. Key presentations highlighted emerging plant diseases, invasive pests, pest risk analysis, quarantine systems, surveillance, diagnostics, and sustainable pest management in the context of climate change and increasing regional trade.



A special address by Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Director, APAARI, emphasized the need to strengthen Bangladesh's plant biosecurity through both strategic and operational actions, including updated phytosanitary legislation, national pest databases, enhanced surveillance, rapid diagnostics, stronger border inspections, and coordinated national response systems aligned with international standards.

The programme concluded with a shared commitment to modernize Bangladesh's plant biosecurity framework through improved quarantine infrastructure, sustainable pest management, capacity development, regional collaboration, and greater public awareness. Participants reaffirmed that healthy plants are fundamental to achieving resilient agrifood systems, food security, and sustainable development.

3.9. IRRI: Financial Inclusion in Food, Land and water systems: What works for women

This policy brief is a knowledge product developed for the G20 South Africa Presidency to inform the deliberations of the Empowerment of Women Working Group (EWWG) and the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) on how financial inclusion can strengthen gender equality and resilience in food, land and water systems. It synthesizes evidence from CGIAR and partners on what works to reach, benefit, and empower women through financial services in rural and agrifood contexts. The brief highlights that women play central roles in agricultural production, entrepreneurship, and natural resource management, yet remain disproportionately excluded from formal financial systems. Structural barriers — including lack of collateral and legal identity, discriminatory norms, low literacy, limited digital access, and financial products poorly adapted to women's realities — constrain women's agency and economic potential. Addressing these constraints is critical for achieving food security, reducing poverty, and advancing gender equality.

The brief argues that financial inclusion must go beyond access to foster autonomy, resilience, and transformation. It identifies seven good practices for scaling impact: tailoring financial products to women's diverse needs; closing the digital gender divide; leveraging group-based models such as self-help groups; bundling finance with services such as training, insurance, and social protection; strengthening rural financial institutions and private-sector engagement; reforming policies related to land, inheritance, and financial regulation; and improving gender-disaggregated data and accountability.

The brief concludes that integrated, context-sensitive, and gender-responsive financial systems can unlock productivity, strengthen livelihoods, and contribute to more inclusive and resilient agrifood systems. It calls for coordinated action by governments, financial institutions, and development partners to translate evidence into policy and practice at scale.

Author(s): Ranjitha Puskur, Benu Verma, Marlene Elias, Gaudiose Mujawamariya, Nicoline de Haan, Vivian Atakos

Read More: [Financial inclusion in food, land and water systems: what works for women?](#)

3.10. Co-Creating a Gender and Social Inclusion Learning Agenda for Food, Land, and Water Systems in Middle East and North Africa Region

IRRI, ICARDA, WorldFish, and IWMI jointly convened an advanced regional workshop in Cairo, Egypt, bringing together researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and donors to reflect on emerging evidence, innovations, and learning priorities related to gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) in food, land, and water systems across the MENA region. The discussions highlighted both the growing sophistication of the evidence base and the persistent gap between knowledge, policy, and implementation.



Participants agreed that while research on gender, agriculture, and resilience has expanded — particularly on women’s roles, intersectionality, norm change, and collective action — its translation into policy and scalable practice remains uneven. A key takeaway was the need to strengthen research–policy–implementation pathways, including clearer feedback loops, stronger engagement with policymakers, and better alignment between evidence generation and national priorities.

The workshop highlighted several promising innovations, including digital advisory services, mobile payments, inclusive finance models, participatory climate and water management tools, and community-based nutrition and livelihood initiatives. However, participants stressed that innovation must be understood not only as technical solutions but also as social and institutional change, and that scaling requires adaptation to local contexts, gender norms, and political realities. Discussions also surfaced persistent structural barriers, including unequal land rights, limited access to finance and markets, weak labor protections, and constrained spaces for women’s leadership and collective organization. These challenges are compounded in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

The workshop concluded with agreement on a shared learning agenda focused on evidence uptake, financial inclusion, land and resource governance, digital inclusion, decent work, social protection, private-sector engagement, and the gender–conflict–agrifood nexus. Participants emphasized the need for coordinated learning, sustained funding, and cross-sector collaboration to ensure that evidence leads to meaningful and lasting change.

Read More: [Climate change, conflict and inequality: why the Middle East and North Africa region needs a gender-responsive learning agenda](#)

3.11. CGIAR Gender Evidence Portal to Support Inclusive Agrifood Systems

The CGIAR Gender Evidence Portal is a timely, innovative knowledge product designed to support gender-responsive policy and practice in agricultural and food systems by making high-quality evidence accessible, relevant, and actionable. It was developed collaboratively by CGIAR and Campbell South Asia to address long-standing challenges in the evidence landscape — notably the fragmentation of research, inconsistent synthesis of findings, and limited uptake of gender-sensitive evidence in policy and programme design. The portal transforms academic and systematic review evidence into a structured, layered question-and-answer format that aligns with the way decision-makers, practitioners, and development partners seek information for real-world challenges.

Rather than presenting isolated studies, the portal organizes content around broad, policy-relevant questions that reflect urgent development concerns — for example, how women farmers adapt to changing conditions or how institutions influence equitable outcomes — and supports deep dives through sub-questions that unpack mechanisms and contextual nuances. Each sub-question links to three layers of content: concise summaries for busy policymakers, longer analytic syntheses that situate evidence within broader debates,

and technical digests that document methodology and allow transparent scrutiny.

The portal's design is unique in its integration of gender as a core dimension, not an add-on, and in its emphasis on usability for diverse users across policy, research, and implementation communities. Advanced filtering, thematic tagging (such as governance, livelihoods, innovation, and adaptation), and one-page policy briefs further enhance accessibility. It is envisioned as a living platform that will evolve with new evidence, support interactive engagement, and bridge the gap between research and action in gender-inclusive development.

Read More; [CGIAR Gender Evidence Portal](#)

3.12. Success Story: Kodaikanal Hill Garlic – A Local Crop with Growing Opportunities, TNAU , India

The story showcases how the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) is working with a Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) to improve cultivation practices, strengthen market access, and develop value-added products such as garlic pickle, garlic powder, garlic oil, and Poondu Legiyam. These efforts are helping enhance farmer incomes while promoting a distinctive horticultural product with growing domestic and export demand. Kodaikanal Hill Garlic (Malai Poondu) from the Dindigul district of Tamil Nadu has received the Geographical Indication (G.I.) tag, recognizing it as a unique product of the Kodaikanal hills. The G.I. tag helps protect the identity of this special garlic variety and ensures that the name can only be used for garlic grown in this region.



Authorized User ID : AU/19428/GI616/2
KODAI HILL GARLIC AND VEGETABLE COLLECTIVE
FARMING PRODUCER COMPANY LTD.
CIN : U01100T22020PTC034746

Known for its strong aroma, pungent taste, and health benefits, Kodaikanal Hill Garlic has become a highly valued product in both local and wider markets. The recognition has also created new opportunities for farmers by

increasing the visibility and value of their produce. To support farmers, the Horticultural and Forestry Research Station, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Kodaikanal, has partnered with the Kodai Hill Garlic Collective Vegetables Farming Producer Company Ltd. The partnership provides farmers with improved cultivation practices, technical guidance, and support in marketing their produce.

Farmers are also producing a range of value-added products, including garlic pickles, garlic powder, garlic oil, Poondu Legiyam, and Poondu Rasam, helping them earn additional income while meeting growing consumer demand.

The Kodaikanal Hill Garlic initiative shows how protecting a traditional crop, supporting farmers with better production practices, and promoting value-added products can improve livelihoods while preserving local agricultural heritage.

Read More: [Welcome to KODAI HILL GARLIC & VEGETABLES COLLECTIVE FARMING PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED](#)

3.13. Amplifying Stories of Agroecology Practices and Principles (ASAPP) – Maramche Agroecological Village from Nepal

The Amplifying Stories of Agroecology Practices and Principles (ASAPP) initiative has published a new case study featuring Maramche Agroecological Village in the Annapurna Rural Municipality of Kaski District, Nepal. The publication documents how smallholder farmers are putting the 13 Principles of Agroecology into practice, providing valuable evidence to support research, policy, and agricultural development

Home to 36 farming households, Maramche is recognized as a model agroecological village where farmers combine indigenous knowledge with sustainable farming practices to eliminate chemical inputs, improve soil fertility, conserve biodiversity, and strengthen food security and food sovereignty. The community also works collectively through local cooperatives and a community seed bank, promoting knowledge sharing, equitable access to resources, and participatory decision-making.

The case study was developed in collaboration with Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD) under its Climate Resilient

Agriculture Project, which promotes agroecology through model villages. Using the Agroecology Assessment Framework, the publication maps local farming practices against the 13 Principles of Agroecology, offering valuable lessons on building resilient, self-sustaining, and socially inclusive food systems in mountain regions.

This publication serves as an important resource for researchers, policymakers, and development practitioners seeking practical examples of how agroecology can contribute to sustainable and climate-resilient agrifood systems.

Read More: [Amplifying Stories of Agroecology Practices and Principles \(ASAPP\) – Maramche Agroecological Village](#)



3.14. A Review of Emerging Technologies in Agricultural Post-Harvest Processing and Quality Retention from PJTAU India

A comprehensive review by Dr. D. Kalpana of the Department of Agricultural Engineering, College of Agriculture, Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University (PJTAU), Hyderabad, and Dr. Samreen of the College of Food Science and Technology, PJTAU, Rudrur, examines emerging technologies that can help reduce post-harvest losses and improve the quality and shelf life of agricultural produce. The review, "A Review of Emerging Technologies in Agricultural Post-Harvest Processing and Quality Retention," highlights advances in storage and preservation technologies, including controlled and modified atmosphere storage, non-thermal processing methods, edible coatings, biocontrol agents, and advanced drying systems.

It also explores the growing role of digital innovations such as the Internet of Things (IoT), machine learning,

computer vision, hyperspectral imaging, and blockchain in improving post-harvest monitoring, quality management, and traceability.

Drawing on research published between 2007 and 2026, the authors emphasize that an integrated approach—combining improved storage, efficient cold-chain systems, intelligent monitoring, and modern processing technologies—offers the greatest potential for reducing post-harvest losses and maintaining food quality. The review also highlights the need to address economic, infrastructure, and regulatory barriers that continue to limit the adoption of these technologies, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.

As countries seek to strengthen food security and build more resilient agrifood systems, this publication provides timely insights for researchers, policymakers, extension professionals, and agribusiness stakeholders working to improve post-harvest management.

Read More: [A Review of Emerging Technologies in Agricultural Post-Harvest Processing and Quality Retention](#)

3.15. Call for Nominations: GCHERA World Agriculture Prize 2026

Nominations are now open for the GCHERA World Agriculture Prize 2026, a prestigious international award established by the Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for the Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA). The award recognizes individuals whose outstanding contributions have advanced education, research, innovation, and outreach in the agricultural and life sciences, helping address global challenges in agriculture and food systems.

In 2026, two prizes of USD 100,000 each will be awarded. To promote global equity, at least one recipient will be selected from a non-developed economy.

APAARI encourages its members and partners to share this opportunity widely within their

institutions and networks to ensure strong participation from the Asia-Pacific region.

- Nomination Deadline: 15 July 2026.

Read More: [GCHERA World Agriculture Prize](#)

3.16. JIRCAS Appoints Dr. Toshihiro Hasegawa as New President

Dr. HASEGAWA Toshihiro has recently been appointed President of the Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS) as they begin our 6th Medium- to Long-Term Plan. He also served as a Coordinating Lead Author for the chapter on food and ecosystem products in the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).



3.17. NARC Appoints Dr. Shreemat Shrestha as Executive Director

APAARI extends its sincere congratulations to Dr. Shreemat Shrestha on his appointment as Executive Director of the Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC).

We look forward to strengthening our continued collaboration with NARC under Dr. Shrestha's leadership.

3.18. Dr. Min-Kyeong Kim Appointed Director of the International Technology Cooperation Center, RDA, Republic of Korea

APAARI congratulates Dr. Min-Kyeong Kim on her appointment as Director of the International Technology Cooperation Center (ITCC) of the Rural Development Administration (RDA), Republic of Korea.

APAARI looks forward to continued collaboration with Dr. Kim and the RDA in advancing agricultural transformation across the Asia-Pacific region.

APAARI acknowledges the support of all the members and partners

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FEEDBACK & SUGGESTIONS

WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK AND SUGGESTIONS

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