

## **Proceedings of Zonal Review Workshop of Farmer FIRST Programme (FFP) under ICAR-ATARI Kolkata held on 12.01.2022 at ICAR-ATARI Kolkata**

The Zonal Review Workshop of Farmer FIRST Programme (FFP) was held at ICAR-ATARI Kolkata through videoconferencing on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 at 10.30 AM under the Chairmanship of Dr. V. P. Chahal, ADG (AE) and Member, Programme Management Committee (PMC) of FFP, ICAR, New Delhi to review the progress (2020-21) and to discuss the action plan (2021-22) of the programme. The following persons attended the above mentioned workshop.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Designation</i>
Dr. V. P. Chahal	ADG (AE) and Member, PMC, FFP, ICAR, New Delhi and Chairman, review workshop
Dr. S. K. Roy	Director-cum-Chairman, Zonal Programme Management Committee (ZPMC), FFP, ICAR-ATARI Kolkata
Dr. P. J. Mishra	Dean, Ext. Edu., OUAT, Bhubaneswar
Dr. P. P. Pal	Pr. Scientist, ICAR-ATARI Kolkata
Dr. S. K. Mondal	Pr. Scientist, ICAR-ATARI Kolkata
Dr. K. S. Das	Pr. Scientist-cum-Member Secretary, ZPMC, FFP, ICAR-ATARI Kolkata
Dr. S. K. Mishra	Pr. Scientist and PI, ICAR-NRRI, Cuttack
Dr. H. K. De	Pr. Scientist and PI, ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar
Prof. P. Tripathi	HoD (Hort.), and Co-PI of FFP, OUAT, Bhubaneswar
Dr. D. Sethi	Sr. Scientist and PI, ICAR-IIWM, Bhubaneswar
SRFs and other staff of ICAR-ATARI Kolkata	

In his welcome address, Dr. S. K. Roy welcomed all dignitaries and participants of the workshop. He pointed out the importance of the projects, its fund allotment, timely release and its utilization. He urged about the approval of new ZPMC members for this zone, re-selection of villages and selection of villages considering the distance from the implementing centre particularly for ICAR-IIWM, Bhubaneswar.

Dr. K. S. Das briefed about the current status and salient achievements (2020-21) of FFP viz. fund received/released/utilized up-to December, 2021; number of modules/villages/farm families/ farmers covered and success story documented against each centre under ICAR-ATARI Kolkata. He also pointed out about the reason of changing the name of Principal Investigators (PI) of projects (ICAR-IIWM and OUAT, Bhubaneswar) during the period.

Prof. P. Mishra requested to the PIs to develop model FFP villages in the district. He also appreciated the efforts of FFP team of each centre for continuing their programme under COVID-19 pandemic situations. Dr. P. P. Pal and Dr. S. K. Mondal appreciated the implementation and monitoring of such prestigious projects at every level.

In his opening remarks, Dr. V. P. Chahal expressed satisfaction from his visits of three centres (NRRI, CIFA and OUAT) before COVID pandemics for nice execution of programme at the fields. He requested to all PIs/ Co-PIs to strictly follow the FFP guidelines in selecting villages/modules for different centres. Dr. Chahal also urged to add more number of modules in the programme, to timely conduct of Institute's Advisory Committee meeting, to make the programme more sustainable and to discuss other related issues.

### ***TECHNICAL SESSION:***

In this session, following four PIs of farmer FIRST project under ICAR-ATARI Kolkata presented the achievements (2020-21) and action plan (2021-22) of the project which were discussed in details by the dignitaries and requested to include in their Action Plan. The salient comments on the projects are given below.

#### ***ICAR-NRRI, Cuttack (Presented by Dr. S. K. Mishra):***

- § Dr. Mishra presented their achievements and action plan very nicely. He raised the issue of timely release of 1<sup>st</sup> instalment to the project institutes. Dr. S. K. Roy requested Dr. V. P. Chahal to kindly mention the amount of fund to be allotted for FFP under FFP Head in BE (2022-23). Dr. Chahal assured that the matter would be solved at the Council level during release of fund.
- § The Chairman asked about the kind of linkages of farmers with NABARD.
- § The PI wanted to clarify from the Chair about the provision of cross learning visit of other FFP project villages.
- § Another review workshop might be organised before National Workshop for Action Plan (2022-23).

#### ***ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar (Presented by Dr. H. K. De):***

- § The presentation was appreciated by the expert members.
- § The terminology 'Kitchen-garden' might be changed to 'Nutri-garden'.
- § The latest variety (<10 years) of seeds must be used in the programme.
- § More modules might be included in the programme.
- § Dr. De informed the members that 30% beneficiary farmers might be changed with PRA data. Accordingly, he has already completed to record almost 80% of total benchmark data. However, other PIs raised the issue of clarification from the Council in this regard (about the process of changing beneficiary farmers in their adopted villages after every 4-5 years or so).
- § Dr. H. K. De requested to the Council to kindly do the needful to revise the remuneration of Field Assistants (Rs. 15000/- per month) working in the FFP projects. Dr. Mishra also expressed similar views on this.

#### ***ICAR-IIWM, Bhubaneswar (Presented by Dr. D. Sethi):***

- § As all 3 adopted villages were situated far away (>250 km) from institute (IIWM) and from the experiences of last few years regarding execution and achievements of the project, it was suggested to reselect the villages within the periphery of 50 km or so from the Institute. The PI was requested to discuss the matter with his Director and Institute Advisory Committee at the earliest following guidelines of FFP.
- § Standard terminology for module should be used.
- § It is suggested to use 'provided critical input' in place of 'distributed something'.
- § One Scientist from Horticulture must be included in the project.
- § Data on yam production per plant should be checked.
- § In Action Plan, proposed demonstration area should be mentioned.
- § The PI was advised to study the impact of adopted technologies in the villages.

- § Dr. S. K. Mishra pointed that the average cost of cultivation per ha was appearing too low in line transplanting of paddy compared to conventional transplanting. The data might be rechecked.

***Ouat, Bhubaneswar (Presented by Dr. P. Tripathi):***

- § It was a very nice presentation. However, under livestock based module, Dr. Das suggested to take utmost care while new quality buck (male goat) would be provided to the goat keepers as critical input to improve their stock in the village. One buck should not stay in one village for more than one year to avoid inbreeding depression. In other way, every year all bucks should be rotated from one village to another.
- § Dr. S. K. Mondal suggested the PI to shift '*Pallishree*' bird rearing under back yard system from 'Enterprise based module' to 'Livestock based module'.

Dr. V. P. Chahal, concluded the workshop with the following remarks.

- ☞ Every project centre would prepare separate Action Plan for upscaling of adopted technologies as per the proforma to be circulated of the council.
- ☞ Regarding cross learning, it was cleared that PI/ Co-PIs could visit any FFP centre across the country for adoption of proven technology model (s) and for its better implementation at their own centre.
- ☞ All PIs/ Co-PIs were suggested to be converged with various related departments/ organizations of State Govt. and Central Govt. to get financial support from them to strengthen basic infrastructure at the adopted villages.
- ☞ Follow the methodologies of FFP strictly for smooth running of the programme.
- ☞ All PI/ Co-PI must be proactive so that fund could be properly utilized by the end this financial year (2021-22).
- ☞ The data related to FFP must be uploaded in '*FFP Portal*'.
- ☞ Technology update must be compiled and the proven technology model should be percolated to other institutes for its widespread adoption in the district.

Meeting ended with the formal vote of thanks to the Chair by Dr. S. K. Mondal.

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