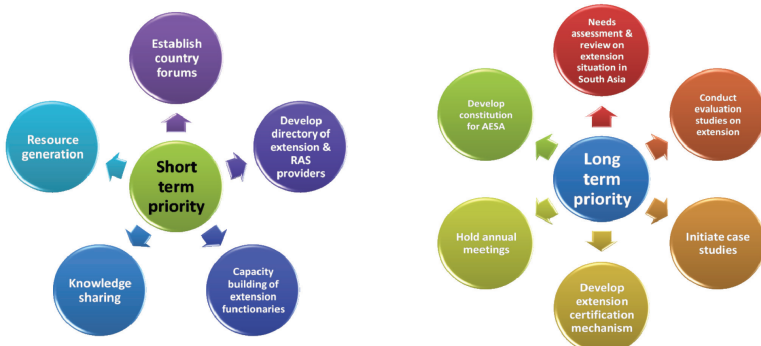


AESA progressed on several fronts during the past six months. The most important event was the organization of its first face to face meeting at Kathmandu, Nepal during 14-15 January 2014.

First Face to Face Meeting



This meeting “Strengthening Extension and Advisory Services in South Asia” was organised jointly by the Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP), India and the South Asia Institute for Advanced Studies (SIAS), Nepal. A total of 29 senior officials involved in extension practice, research and policy, representing seven South Asian countries participated in this meeting. The participants discussed about the vision, mission and functions of AESA, its governance and resource generation strategies. The meeting also identified the short term and long term priorities of AESA. Proceedings of this meeting is available at <http://www.aesa-gfras.net/Resources/file/PROCEEDINGS-First%20AESA%20Meeting%2014-15%20Jan%202014-Kathmandu.pdf>



Network promotion











AESA participated in the International Extension Conference jointly organized by the International Society of Extension Education (INSEE) and the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore during 5-8 December 2013 (Bangalore, India). Several participants visited the AESA stall at the event and this allowed us to talk more about AESA and its activities.

AESA groups in the Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/428431183848161/> and LinkedIn - http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Agricultural-Extension-in-South-Asia-5055791?trk=my_groups-b-grp-v together has about 3500 members currently. Useful information related to extension and advisory services is being shared every day in these groups.



AESA web-portal

We have updated and upgraded our web portal www.aesa-gfras.net recently and have added two new sections namely “Face-to-Face” and “Book Review”. We interviewed three key actors in extension and advisory provision from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka for the face to face and reviewed two publications under the AESA Book Review Project. 11 Policy Blogs covering a wide range of topics related to extension were also added to the web portal.

 <p>February 2014</p> <h3>FACE TO FACE</h3>  <p>Without a comprehensive policy, agricultural extension is unlikely to get the priority and attention it deserves. Formulation and implementation of an extension policy should be the first priority for improving extension delivery in Sri Lanka.</p> <p>Prof. C. Sivayagathnan Senior Professor (Agricultural Extension) University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Prof. C. Sivayagathnan retired last month as Senior Professor (Agricultural Extension) from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. He</p> <p>From 1953 to 1958, under the Second Agricultural Extension Project, the Integrated Agricultural Extension Service included the</p>	 <p>Blogs</p>	 <p>My Meeting Notes</p>	 <p>Face to Face</p>	<p>Agricultural Extension in South Asia</p> <p>Farmer's Organizations in Bangladesh: A Mapping and Capacity Assessment</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Rome 2014</p> <p>http://www.fao.org/docrep/019/i3593e/i3593e.pdf</p> <p>Farmer organizations are crucial both on the demand and the supply side of Rural Advisory Service (RAS). On the demand side, they identify and synthesize needs, demands, and solutions for farmers. They contribute to monitoring and evaluation of RAS and participate in policy formulation. On the supply side, producer organizations provide and coordinate RAS activities. These roles were clearly articulated in the 4th IRRAS Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services Annual Meeting (24-28 Sept 2013, Berlin) and also in the side event organized by GFRAS and FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) recently (20 February 2014, Bonn) in the IRRAS International Fund for Agricultural Development Farmers Forum.</p> <p>This exploratory study report on Farmer's Organizations in Bangladesh from FAO is highly relevant in this context. The study was undertaken by the Bangladesh Integrated</p>
	 <p>Good Practices</p>	 <p>Publications & Book Review</p>	 <p>News and Events</p>	<p>Book Review 2: March 2014</p>  <p>AESA BOOK REVIEW</p>  <p>International Society of Extension Education Agricultural Extension in South Asia</p>

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