PROCEEDINGS
SOUTH ASIA POLICY DIALOGUE
Role of Extension and Advisory Services (EAS) in Scaling-up Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)
5 October 2018, Colombo, Sri Lanka

INTRODUCTION

The South Asia Policy Dialogue on the Role of Extension and Advisory Services (EAS) in Scaling-up Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) was convened on Friday, 5 October 2018, at Colombo, Sri Lanka. The dialogue – co-hosted by Agricultural Extension in South Asia (AESA) network, IRRI South Asia Regional Centre (ISARC), Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP), and Sri Lanka Network of Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (NAEASSL) – provided a forum for stakeholders from government, private, non-governmental and multilateral organizations to explore the issues and evidence related to scaling up climate smart agriculture through extension and advisory services, and to chart a way forward in terms of policy and programme development. This report outlines the objectives, process, and outcomes of the dialogue.

Objectives of the Policy Dialogue

- Engage with policy makers, donors, and key extension professionals engaged in promotion of climate smart agriculture in South Asian countries, and to explore the role EAS can potentially play in scaling up CSA;
- Serve as a platform for sharing experiences and learning from EAS interventions in scaling up CSA;
- Identify specific challenges persisting in South Asia for effectively utilizing EAS, and to explore necessary policy changes to address specific opportunities and challenges;
- Explore how country-level networks of EAS providers can strengthen capacities of EAS so as to support scaling up of CSA;
- Create a forum to explore possibilities for South-South collaboration within and beyond the region for capacity development of EAS professionals.

Twenty-two participants from four South Asian countries, namely, India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka representing the national policy makers and research and development agencies from the government and non-government organisations (NGOs), private sectors and donor representatives took part in the dialogue. (See Annexure I for details). A combination of interactive tools such as expert presentations, and panel and plenary discussions (see Annexure II) were used during the policy dialogue forum to cull out ideas and come up with policy recommendations.

INAUGURAL SESSION

Nafees Meah, the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Representative for South Asia, welcomed the gathering. In his brief address, he emphasized the importance of creating an agricultural system resilient to climate change in South Asia and the role of EAS in supporting farmers to adapt to climate change. In his inaugural address, Amal S Anurappriya, Additional Director General (Agriculture), Sri Lanka, pointed towards a pressing need for collaboration among different organizations/stakeholders within and beyond the region in order to address CSA (Box 1), and also for developing the capacity of EAS professionals in scaling up CSA.

Box 1: Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)

CSA is an approach that integrates climate change into planning and development of sustainable agricultural systems. The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO 2013) defines CSA as 'agriculture that sustainably increases productivity, enhances resilience (adaptation), reduces/removes GHGs (mitigation) where possible, and enhances achievement of national food security and development goals'.

FAO. 2013. Climate Smart Agriculture Source Book. Rome: FAO. (Available at http://www.fao.org/3/a-i3325e.pdf)

Rasheed Sulaiman V, Director, CRISP and Focal Point, AESA, provided the rationale for organizing this policy dialogue. He emphasized the major concerns of policy makers – including whether the EAS has the necessary capacities to promote and up-scale CSA, or are they still performing mostly the traditional role of supporting productivity increase at farm level through demonstrations, farmer field schools, trainings, etc?, and, are they getting the right research support and adequate funding to promote CSA?. He concluded that the purpose of this dialogue is to share ideas and views about 'if' and 'how' EAS can support the scaling up of CSA.

Thereafter, P Wanigasundera, Focal Point, NAEASSL, drew attention to the need for professional networks to engage with policy makers on issues like CSA, which needs a lot of co-ordination among the different ministries, departments and research centres who are all engaged, in one way or another, in extension and advisory service provision.

This session concluded with a brief self introduction of the participants.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Session 1: Country Perspectives

This session was chaired by V Usha Rani, Director General, National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), India. This session comprised of four presentations respectively from Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

The main points discussed during this session were:

- ⇨ *Challenges faced by EAS in promoting CSA (technological, policy, institutional, capacity) in each country.*
- ⇨ *How does EAS currently support the three dimensions of CSA, namely, enhancing productivity, facilitating adaptation and supporting mitigation?*
- ⇨ *How can EAS better support CSA?*
- ⇨ *What are the different capacities that need to be developed within EAS at different levels to fully support CSA?*

Bangladesh

Abu Wali Raghib Hassan, Extension Management & Capacity Development Specialist, Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Bangladesh, gave an account of the agricultural extension system in Bangladesh, which is comprised of governmental, non-governmental, and commercial traders and input suppliers, and the different extension approaches adopted by them. He pointed to the lack of adequate technologies that can support adaptation to, and mitigation of, climate change. He emphasized on the lack of capacities among extension staff at all levels in understanding CSA and how this is currently constraining the scaling up of CSA. Apart from these issues, lack of co-ordination among the varied organizations and absence of a comprehensive policy on addressing climate change are also major challenges faced by EAS in scaling up CSA in Bangladesh.

To address these constraints, Bangladesh needs to develop: the capacities of field level Extension personnel on CSA technologies; researchers in various research institutions in developing technologies and protocols for application (package of practices) of the technologies; land and irrigation development agencies in developing and promoting climate smart irrigation technologies for crop production; and training institutions for developing capacity of agriculture officers on CSA. Apart from these a core team/cell on CSA is also needed which can be set up in a prominent/ relevant agricultural institution, he averred.

Nepal

Prakash Acharya, Senior Crop Development Officer, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Nepal, briefed on status of EAS in Nepal. He described the three tiers of Nepal's institutional set up – Federal, Provincial and Local Government; and the major pillars of CSA: Food security, Adaptation (use of technologies, change in agriculture practice, cross cutting interventions),

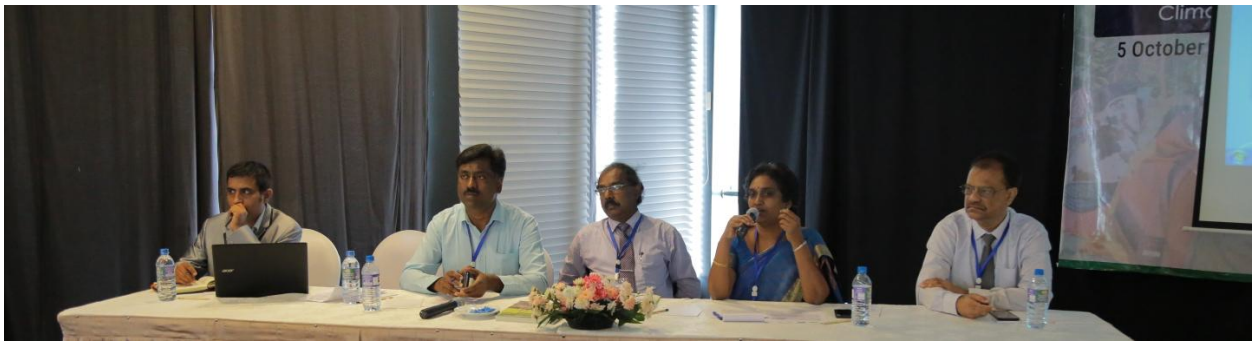
Supporting mitigation (new approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions), and Gender and social inclusion. He also discussed a few of the identified CSA practices undertaken by DoA, Nepal, such as plastic house technology, plastic pond, drip irrigation, precision and protected agriculture, water harvesting, conservation agriculture, and climate resilient seeds and varieties. The scaling up models administered by DoA, Nepal were also discussed: Knowledge transfer/extension models (new crops, improved and cost effective technologies, awareness creation), Commercial business models (investment in drip irrigation, permanent structures), and Policy incidence models (community seed bank, output-based insurance, facilitation in weather index-based data generation).

In Nepal, EAS faces several challenges in scaling up CSA. These include: limited access of farmers to climate relevant extension advisory services (e.g., weather forecast) and mechanization services; limited knowledge of EAS providers on CSA practices; inadequate number of EAS staff, and lack of a clear mandate for staff at different levels.
To address these challenges, there is a need to:

- Promote innovative methods for disseminating knowledge and skills;
- Strengthen farmer-to-farmer extension service, and climate field schools;
- Improve capacity of local institutions;
- Build institutions at community level (e.g., seed banks);
- Provide free agro advisory services;
- Organise discussions on the planning process;
- Document successful and cost effective CSA technologies;
- Undertake robust studies to improve understanding of what works, where, and why, in different agro ecologies and farming systems;
- Enhance capacities of EAS to address CSA;
- Establish a technology sharing platform;
- Mainstream CSA up scaling in government guidelines and policies;
- Undertake more research on CSA and validation of existing CSA practices; and
- Enhance investment in CSA.

India

Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE, India, portrayed the status of EAS in India. Even though India has a highly pluralistic EAS, surprisingly there is very limited innovation in planning and implementing extension interventions, he mentioned. Most of the EAS interventions focus on productivity increase, and a few on mobilizing farmers into groups. Moreover, there is a deficiency of both technical and functional capacities for promoting CSA among EAS personnel and lack of productive linkages among varied actors in the Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS).



He emphasized the need for better co-ordination between Research-Extension-Civil Society Organizations (CSOs); and advocated partnerships among the diverse EAS actors, scaling up of projects on CSA, and a programme for capacity development of EAS staff in order to upscale CSA.

Sri Lanka

Amal S Anurappriya, gave a brief presentation on CSA and water management technologies practiced in Sri Lanka for livelihood improvement. A few of the cited techniques include: drought resistant/escape crops/varieties, rainwater harvesting, construction of ponds and agro wells, infiltration traps, spray-jet irrigation, basin irrigation, girdle irrigation, drip and sprinkler irrigation. He concluded that given the reality of changing and variable climate, water harvesting, water saving, proper land and crop selection, increasing water storage, and efficient water supply methods are important.

These presentations were followed by a discussions and a Question and Answer (Q&A) session among the presenters and the participants.

The Chair of the session summarized the major aspects from the four country presentations and noted that there is long way to go to upscale CSA among every farmer/farm. She also highlighted the major concerns raised in every presentation – lack of technical and functional capacities among EAS, and absence of co-ordination among the varied organizations – and the need to address these capacity gaps to promote CSA.

Session 2: Private Sector/NGO/Regional Actors' Perspectives

Recent years have seen an increasing role of research, NGO and private sector organizations in promoting CSA. However, their contributions have not received the desired policy attention. However, their contributions have received very little policy attention. US Singh (IRRI South Asia Regional Centre, Varanasi, India) Herath Manthrithilake (International Water Management Institute [IWMI], Sri Lanka), Athauda Jayawardena (IPM Pvt. Ltd., Sri Lanka), and Ranga Pallawala (Janathakshan, Sri Lanka) participated in the discussion and the session was moderated by Nafees Meah.

Key points discussed during the session were:

- ⇨ *How are they currently supporting CSA scaling up?*
- ⇨ *Do they see the role of EAS in CSA scaling up?*
- ⇨ *What needs to change (funding, priority setting, capacity, infrastructure, nature and extent of collaboration, policy, etc.) in EAS and other actors to fully support CSA scaling up?*

Herath Manthrithilake initiated the discussion by sharing the role of IWMI in promoting CSA in the region. IWMI mainly concentrates on development and promotion of technologies that help in dealing with drought and flood, use of groundwater, and use of solar power for irrigation. It has recently started exploring agricultural insurance as a mechanism to address risk. He opined that the public extension systems in general in South Asia are highly compartmentalized. Though NGOs and local agencies do engage in extension activities, many are unclear about CSA and their role in promoting CSA. Like many other organizations in the region, IWMI too faces similar issues, such as absence of institutional capacity and lack of resources for promoting CSA.

US Singh shared the experiences of IRRI in developing seed policies and regional agreements (Box 2) in dissemination of stress tolerant and other rice varieties across borders.

Box 2: Seed policies and regional agreements

The ***Dhaka Agreement*** was signed by India, Bangladesh, and IRRI during the Regional Workshop for Cooperation on Seed Issues held in Dhaka on 17 February 2013. The areas identified for collaboration included: joint varietal evaluation and release; reciprocal recognition of evaluation data for similar agro-environments to reduce time before release in neighbouring countries; reduce time for evaluation of varieties developed through MABC; pre-release seed multiplication & promotion; encourage private sector involvement; and harmonize seed systems and policies.

The ***Kathmandu Agreement*** was signed by Bangladesh, India, and IRRI and then extended to Nepal. These three countries agreed to share the evaluation data and varieties released in their respective countries for release and commercialization in the other two countries. India directly notified 4 from Bangladesh (BINA dhan 8, BINA dhan 10, BINA dhan 11 and BINA dhan 12), and two (Sukha dhan 5 and Sukha dhan 6) from Nepal. Nepal released two varieties from India (DRR dhan 44 and Ciherang-Sub1).

The ***Siem Reap Protocol***, was signed at Cambodia on 10 June 2017 (known as 'Seed without Border'). It is a regional seed policy agreement that speeds up the distribution of modern rice varieties across nations in South and Southeast Asia. Originally signed by India, Bangladesh, and Nepal, it has now expanded to include Sri Lanka and the Kingdom of Cambodia.

One of the significant constraints in upscaling new varieties in India has been the lack of adequate performance evaluation process in farmer fields. IRRI addressed this issue by organizing head-to-head trial of new varieties in farmer's field (in collaboration with DoA), where farmers can observe and compare the performance of the new variety along with the one that the farmer uses currently – in actual field conditions. It also helped in promoting the benefits of these new varieties among the private sector.

Athauda Jayawardena representing the Sri Lankan private sector expressed the need to strengthen capacities of smallholder famers who form the major proportion of the farming community in South Asia. Merely forcing them to protect an environment will end up in failure as they are primarily interested only in their own livelihood improvement. So measures should be taken to address income improvement by increasing productivity, which can be done by recommending various environment friendly and sustainable measures. A win-win approach is thus important for scaling up CSA. He said that policies developed in isolation to protect the environment will not bring about good end results. A bottom-up approach may be more effective rather than a top-down approach for promoting CSA. The role of input suppliers in promoting CSA is insignificant as their focus is on profit making. Therefore, a set of rules and regulations and a mechanism of adherence should be put in place to avoid violation and to protect the environment. He concluded that public–private partnership (PPP) should be properly addressed otherwise it will not be beneficial but only detrimental.

Ranga Pallawala pointed out that majority engaged in agriculture – whether private companies or smallholder farmers – neglect climate forecast in their decision making. The projection of temperature or rainfall over a period is not taken into consideration by many farmers. He emphasized several points: the promotion of CSA should start with land use planning; it should break institutional barriers; the Ministry of Agriculture should focus on a National Adaptation Plan predominantly for the agriculture sector; while promoting CSA, marketing and other economic components should also be kept in mind.

Comments/Questions

- CSA focus should not be merely concentrated on food crops but should extend to other allied sectors like livestock, fisheries, etc.
- Climate variability also affects soil microbes, so soil health should not be neglected.
- The role of private sector in CSA is predominant in the current scenario. Apart from financial sustainability of their enterprise, the private sector should also focus on social responsibility and environment sustainability.
- South-South collaboration and agreements for the release of rice varieties is a good beginning, but such types of collaboration should be extended to other areas, such as pest and disease management, EAS, etc.

- Focus should not only be on adaptation but also on mitigation, and promotion of carbon neutral agricultural products.
- Various initiatives, such as remote sensing for agricultural insurance, small farm mechanization, etc., are being adopted by farmers.
- There is need to develop a strategic collaboration framework among different organizations for active participation in promoting CSA among the farming communities.

Session 3: Donor Perspectives

Climate change is projected to have profound effects on the agricultural sector in future. It is imperative to explicitly incorporate projections on future impacts of climate change into today's investment planning for sustainable agricultural development. Sarath Wickramaratne (World Bank, Sri Lanka), Yasantha Mapatuna (Project Director, SAPP, IFAD, Sri Lanka), and Janaka Amarasinghe (Project Director, STaRR, IFAD), discussed the issues from a donor perspective and the session was moderated by Fredrick Abeyratne (ex-UNDP, Sri Lanka).

Key points discussed during the session were:

- ⇨ *How are donors currently supporting CSA scaling up?*
- ⇨ *How do they see the role of EAS in CSA scaling up?*
- ⇨ *What needs to change (funding, priority setting, capacity, infrastructure, nature and extent of collaboration, policy, etc.) in EAS and other actors to fully support CSA scaling up?*
- ⇨ *How can donor support be used to strengthen EAS in general, to support CSA scaling up?*

Sarath Wickramaratne highlighted the importance of donor organizations in promoting CSA. He emphasized the following points: a donors forum should be formed to share experiences and resources to promote CSA; recognizing the importance of, and funding research on CSA; participatory planning by all the stakeholders including the beneficiaries; and donor organizations can persuade implementing agencies to prepare a holistic plan covering rehabilitation, infrastructure, production, marketing, transportation, storage, etc., for addressing the issue. He also added that the activities of The World Bank are guided by the country strategy framework developed every three years.

Yasantha Mapatuna mentioned that climate and environmental finance for smallholder farmers is one of the focal themes of IFAD in the context of CSA. Climate resilient measures are taken into consideration while preparing a portfolio for each country. In IFAD, CSA interventions address: policy engagements, climate risk assessment, capacity development of women, climate information, insurance, private sector engagements, natural resource management, participation of farmer organizations, and development of knowledge management portals for distribution of information among other organizations. IFAD follows a private-public-producer participation model to support and promote CSA. She further stressed that sound holistic policies addressing climate issues should be an important part of any investment plan drafted by any donor organization. Therefore, the need of the hour is to develop policy that is informed by learning from good practices and lessons learnt from various efforts in the context of climate change and CSA in the region.

Janaka Amarasinghe stressed that lack of monitoring with regard to the implementation of the project plan at each stage is one of the major factors for failure, and added that IFAD had developed an application (app) for monitoring different stages of a project at the grassroots level. IFAD also follows participatory planning and a 4P (Public-Private-Producer Partnerships) model in promoting CSA. He also recommended the formation of a forum to share the lessons learnt from various projects across the region among the implementers, for successful scaling up of CSA.

Comments/Questions

- A donors forum should be established for cross learning from different projects implemented in the region.
- The need of the hour is to have a regional policy in the context of CSA, which can even be implemented through a SAARC country platform.
- Donor organizations should restrict the portion of funds allocated for conducting exhibitions and other activities which have less impact on end users in the context of CSA.
- Donor organizations should also consult the Ministry of Environment (apart from the Ministry of Agriculture) for implementation of any projects related to climate change.
- A virtual platform – for sharing good practices, market linkages, and other EAS including policy engagements – need to be supported by donor organizations as they can play a major role in coordinating different stakeholders within the region.

In his concluding words, Fredrick Abeyratne, moderator of the session, thanked the participants and expressed hope that the discussion would contribute to policy development that will go on to enhance the role of EAS in scaling-up CSA.

Session 4: Policy Makers' Perspectives

Scaling up CSA requires supportive policies, therefore policy makers' perspectives are valuable in addressing scaling up of CSA by EAS. The panel included Prakash Acharya (DoA, Nepal), V

Usha Rani (MANAGE, India), Jatish C Biswas (KGF, Bangladesh), Bhaskar Jyoti Sarma (DoA, Odisha, India), and Amal S Anurappriya (DoA, Sri Lanka). Ranjitha Puskur (IRRI) moderated the session.

Key points discussed during the session were:

- ⇨ *What are the policy changes needed to address the opportunities and challenges EAS has in addressing CSA?*
- ⇨ *How can collaboration and convergence be improved among line departments and across other actors in public, private, NGO and Producer Organizations to promote CSA?*
- ⇨ *How can financing (e.g., access to climate funds) be boosted for promoting CSA in general, and EAS in particular, to support CSA?*
- ⇨ *How can better and more targeted adaptive research support be ensured for EAS to fully support CSA scaling up?*
- ⇨ *How can the role of country level networks of EAS providers in policy advocacy and capacity development be enhanced so as to fully support EAS in scaling up CSA?*

Ranjitha Puskur set the scene for this session by highlighting the policy level issues of co-ordination, capacity development, research support and funding for EAS that influence the scaling up of CSA.

Prakash Acharya initiated the discussion by highlighting the importance of involving all stakeholders who are directly or indirectly related in the promotion of CSA in policy development. This will also ensure better co-ordination. As public sector is the predominant actor in EAS in South Asia, it should take the lead in enforcing coordination among different actors for implementing CSA. The government should allocate a certain amount of funds for capacity development of its personnel and set an enabling environment for promoting CSA.

Bhaskar Jyoti Sarma noted that the government should focus on convergence of various departments with a common reporting system at the district and state levels, which is happening already in India. While funding and co-ordination are addressed effectively, the main challenge is developing the right capacities among several EAS functionaries, and ensuring that there are fewer poorly qualified trainers.

Jatish C Biswas emphasized the importance of selection of right partners for successful coordination and knowledge sharing. The government should allocate funds and create a favorable environment to strengthen the capacities of EAS providers in CSA. He shared experiences from Bangladesh by citing the 'Student Exchange programme in ACIAR project' and the role played by 'National Agriculture Training Academy (NATA), Bangladesh, in capacity development of EAS providers'.

V Usha Rani said that mutual dependence and shared vision are the key determinants of successful coordination. She stated that climate change is not merely a concern in agricultural sciences, but it is of concern to a vast array of disciplines, like geography, hydrology, oceanography, meteorology, zoology, etc. Therefore a platform at the national level is needed to connect all the actors. She noted that capacity development of EAS on CSA through just a 2-3 day engagement is not enough as it requires continuous knowledge updating. Participation of EAS members in online courses applicable to their area of work is one way of doing it. Donor organizations, such as World Bank, IFAD, etc., should finance capacity development programmes. The funds from corporate and private sector can be utilized through 'Corporate Social Responsibility' for more action-oriented capacity development programmes. Traditional and indigenous knowledge held by farmers plays a major role in CSA, which has always highlighted the importance of adaptive and location-specific research in promoting CSA. She also pointed out that research in extension methodologies is weak and has been neglected over the years and we are yet to identify new, effective and relevant extension models.

Amal Anurappriya shared experiences from Sri Lanka on how change in policy led to reviving interest in Sri Lanka's traditional food culture by citing the example of 'HelaBojun: True Sri Lankan Taste'. He highlighted the need for bringing about desirable changes in consumer behavior that can influence climate change adaptation.

Comments/Questions

- Public sector should play a lead role in policy advocacy of CSA by collaborating with private, NGO and producer organizations.
- Conduct need/problem driven and context specific research by consulting end users and other actors in CSA.
- Shift focus from output-based research to outcome-based research by integrating EAS in research, and allocating funds for capacity development of EAS providers in projects.
- Combination of qualitative and quantitative research methodology needs to be promoted in extension discipline for better results.
- EAS models, such as public private partnerships, information and service centre model, multimedia supplemented interactive model, etc., should be promoted in the transition from subsistence to commercial agriculture instead of merely depending on traditional methods like demonstration, training, etc.
- Capacities of EAS providers should be strengthened so that they recognize the shift in trend from subsistence to commercial farming.

CLOSING SESSION

In his concluding remarks, Rasheed Sulaiman V summarized the major points that emerged in the discussions and conveyed his sincere thanks to all the participants for their inputs to the dialogue. Prior to the closing session the participants were asked to share their thoughts on ways forward with regard to strengthening the role of EAS in scaling up CSA. Nimisha Mittal, Programme Manager, CRISP, thanked all the organizers and participants for their contribution towards making this dialogue a success.

WAY FORWARD

While the different sessions explored the views of diverse stakeholders on how EAS support could be better organized to promote CSA, the over-arching issue identified was the need for strengthening capacities of pluralistic EAS at several levels for promoting CSA. The policy dialogue came up with a number of methods to strengthen the capacities of EAS. These are:

1. **Enhance knowledge and skills related to promotion of CSA at different levels in each country**
    a. *Field and middle management level*: Strengthen staff training on technical aspects of CSA and functional aspects related to CSA promotion;
    b. *Senior management level:* Train staff on development of strategic collaboration frameworks for promoting joint planning and implementation of CSA, climate financing, policy advocacy for strengthening investments and capacities in EAS, inter-agency coordination, and establishment of learning events on CSA promotion;
    c. *Trainers*: Enhance their capacities to develop training modules for development of master trainers;
    d. *Researchers*: Organize more adaptive research support to EAS at the local level;
    e. *Organisational level*: Strengthen knowledge management through development of a database on CSA practices and experiences/good practices deriving from CSA promotion, and organise learning events for face-to-face sharing of experiences and lessons.

2. **Enhance capacities at the regional level for joint action**
    a. Establish a regional level learning group on EAS in support of EAS;
    b. Organise regional level exchange of information and experiences on CSA promotion, training of senior managers and trainers on climate financing, development of proposals to raise resources from climate funds, multi-sector collaboration, etc., including development of online courses in these areas;
    c. Establish regional agreements to share technologies across the region.

END NOTE

Governments at the national and state/provincial levels continue to play a major role in EAS provision in South Asia. NGOs and the private sector have started playing an important role in EAS, and capacities of all the actors in this pluralistic EAS landscape in each country need to be enhanced. Regional organizations, such as ISARC, SAARC Agricultural Centre and AESA, ought to take the lead in strengthening capacities at the regional level.

Annexure I
List of Participants

No	Country	Participant	Designation	Address	Contact details
1.	Bangladesh	Abu Wali Raghib Hassan	Extension Management & Capacity Development Specialist (Production, Storage & Distribution of Quality Seeds of Pulses, Oils & Spices at Farmers Level)	Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Bangladesh	awrhassan@gmail.com
2.	Bangladesh	Jatish Chandra Biswas	Coordinator, KGF Climate Change project and Former Chief Scientific Officer	Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Bangladesh	jatishb@yahoo.com
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5.	India	Ranjitha Puskur	Theme Leader - Catalysing Innovation for Health, Equity and Resilience Sustainable Impact Platform	International Rice Research Institute, DAPO Box, 7777 Metro Manila 1301, Philippines	r.puskur@irri.org
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