

Agricultural Extension in South Asia (AESA), organized workshops; participated in webinars and meetings; worked on strengthening country fora; and published several outputs from September 2022 to March 2023.

### APIRAS Learning Workshop

AESA organised a Learning Workshop on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Islands Rural Advisory Services network (APIRAS) ([www.apiras.net](http://www.apiras.net)) at Bangkok from 24 to 26 January 2023. The workshop was primarily aimed at (a) supporting the representatives of the Country Extension Networks to know more about the activities of APIRAS and its sub-regional network; and (b) for newly emerging networks to learn from more established networks on potential opportunities and interventions they could capitalize to strengthen their initiatives. Thirty participants from 15 countries across Asia-Pacific participated in this meeting.



### Networking

AESA participated in the 13th Annual Meeting (GAM) of the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS) that was organised by the Latin American Rural Extension Services Network (RELASER) at Santiago, Chile, during 24-27 October 2022. The GAM focussed on nutrition-sensitive extension to identify and discuss policies, incentives and necessary capacities that allow directing and strengthening food systems and extension with a focus on nutrition.



Representatives from AESA and Bangladesh Agricultural Extension Network (BAEN) participated in the IFAD Supervision Mission on the Last Mile Project (LMP) which was organised at Nairobi, Kenya, from 26 September to 03 October 2022. The mission was organised by GFRAS to assess the achievements and progress made in project implementation so far, and planning the

follow up action until the end of the current project, that is mid-2024. The participants included representatives of IFAD, of the targeted GFRAS country extension networks, as well as representatives of GFRAS Regional Networks and Global Secretariat.

### Knowledge Management

AESA, through its website, published ten blogs, five Good Practices Notes, eight book reviews, six Meeting Notes, and a policy brief during the last six months. AESA is using the Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram and the AESA email list

to promote exchange of knowledge on extension and advisory services (EAS). AESA is also handling knowledge management functions of the Asia-Pacific Islands Rural Advisory Services Network (APIRAS) ([www.apiras.net](http://www.apiras.net)). AESA Policy Brief 4 focussed on reforms for effective agricultural extension delivery at the local level in Nepal.

## Webinar

A webinar to launch IFAD's latest publication on 'Lessons Learned from Supporting Pluralistic Extension Services in Asia and Africa' was organised on 12th December 2022. The publication provides lessons learned from the 23 IFAD-funded projects that implemented different types of pluralistic extension services. AESA contributed to the development of this publication. (<https://www.ifad.org/en/web/knowledge/-/lessons-learned-from-supporting-pluralistic-extension-services-in-asia-and-africa>)

AESA organised a webinar on 29th November 2022 on 'Higher Education in Agriculture and Allied Sciences in Germany' to share information on the scholarships and internship opportunities available for Indian students in agriculture for higher education in Germany.



(<https://www.aesanetwork.org/webinar-on-higher-education-in-agriculture-and-allied-sciences-in-germany/>)

## Capacity Development

AESA promoted the TAP-AIS Framework at several forums during this period. As part of lectures on 'Enabling Innovation and Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS)', Dr Rasheed Sulaiman V, focal point, AESA, delivered a lecture on the 'Role of Extension in Enabling Innovation' on 30 December 2022, at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, and on 27 February 2023, at the Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University. He also presented a session on 'Agricultural Innovation Systems' at a training organised by the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) on Transformational Agricultural Innovation Systems for the New Future (TrAInS) on 16 November 2022.



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