



**ICARDA**

*International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry  
Areas*

**Inception Workshop**

**On**

**Sustainable Land Management – Research Project  
(CACILM)**

**Proceedings**

**2-4 July, 2007  
Tashkent, Uzbekistan**

*ICARDA-CAC Regional Office*

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

**Inception Workshop  
on  
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**Executive Summary**

An Inception workshop on “Sustainable Land Management – Research Project (CACILM)” was held in Tashkent from 2 to 4 July, 2007. In all, more than 40 participants attended the workshop, including Heads of NARS and leading scientists from all Central Asian countries, representatives of CACILM Multicountry Secretariat, ADB, FAO, UNDP, ZEF, CIP, ARVDC, scientists from ICARDA Headquarters and CAC Regional office as well as IWMI scientists.

During the opening session, Dr. Surendra Beniwal, Acting Regional Coordinator, ICARDA-CAC welcomed the participants and appreciated the support and encouragement extended by Dr. John Patterson of CACILM Multi-country Secretariat and Ms. Judy Vermudo of ADB.

The workshop was inaugurated by H.E. Prof. Abdushukur Khanazarov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Water Management of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Director of Uzbek Scientific Center for Agriculture, who congratulated the participants with the approval of the project and emphasized the importance of the project for the region as a whole and Uzbekistan, in particular. The Honble Deputy Minister also thanked ICARDA and ADB for the continued support in addressing issues that are critical for the livelihoods of resource poor farmers in Central Asia. He also assured of his full support for the implementation of the project in Uzbekistan.

Dr. John Patterson, CACILM Multi-country Secretariat, made remarks on CACILM strategy for sustainable agricultural development in Central Asia, centered in the field of soil and water management. He specifically emphasized ICARDA’s role to support agriculture through natural resource conservation being a critical and relevant need in the region for the livelihood opportunities of resource poor farmers.

Dr. Raj Gupta thanked CACILM Secretariat, ADB and FAO for Continuously Support and all NARS leaders for submitting their Research Work plans for the Project.

The discussions were organized in three working groups on soil water management, rangeland management and socio-economic components, respectively. The participants of the working groups developed specific recommendations on three aspects, which were presented during the Plenary Session and approved.

During the Workshop, different issues relating to the CACILM project management were discussed and finalized, including the work plan and budget for 2007.

## INAUGURAL SESSION

### *Inaugural Session*

*Chairpersons: Prof. Abdushukur Khanazarov and Dr. Surendra Beniwal*

### *Welcome Address by Dr. Surendra Beniwal*

Dr. Surendra Beniwal, Acting Regional Coordinator, ICARDA-CAC, extended his warm welcome to all the participants, thanking them for attending the workshop (Agenda is enclosed as Annex I and List of Participants as Annex II). He expressed his appreciation to the Chief Guest H.E. Prof. Abdushukur Khanazarov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Water Management of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Director of Uzbek Scientific Center for Agriculture for his presence and the support to the activities of the CGIAR Program for CAC. He also appreciated the support and encouragement extended by Dr. John Patterson and Ms. Judy Vermudo of ADB. He emphasized that soil and water management project has been the first regional project funded by any donor organization on NRM in Central Asia and also the first major step towards ADB – ICARDA partnership, which is now being further strengthened.

Dr. Surendra Beniwal also welcomed the scientists of the NRM Program; ICARDA headed by the Director, Dr. Richard Thomas and appreciated their role in the effective starting of new Project. He then stressed that the project would build on the achievements under the second phase of ADB Soil And Water Project with more emphasis to be laid on technology demonstration and dissemination to farmers, who are in need for low-cost effective technologies that would be able to help in improving their livelihoods. Finally, he wished all the participants to have fruitful deliberations that would contribute to the development of the workplan to ensure successful implementation of the project.

### *Inaugural Address by H.E. Prof. Abdushukur Khanazarov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Water Management, the Republic of Uzbekistan*

H.E. Prof. Abdushukur Khanazarov inaugurated the workshop and on behalf of the Uzbekistan Government extended a warm welcome to all the participants from Central Asian countries and to the representatives of ICARDA, ADB and other organizations. He congratulated the participants with the approval of the New CACILM Project and emphasized the importance of the project for the region as a whole and Uzbekistan, in particular. The Honble Deputy Minister also thanked ADB for the continued support in addressing issues that are critical for the livelihoods of resource poor farmers in Central Asia. He expressed his satisfaction with the results achieved under the ADB Soil and Water Project in the areas of improved irrigation technologies, conservation tillage and crop diversification. He was particularly happy with the outputs under the human resource development component and hoped that these activities would be further continued in the CACILM project. Prof. Khanazarov also assured of his full support for the implementation of the project in Uzbekistan.

### **CACILM and SLM-R's strategy for sustainable agricultural development in Central Asia – Dr. John Patterson, CACILM Multi-country Secretariat**

Dr. John Patterson, CACILM Multi-country secretariat presented the CACILM's strategy for sustainable agricultural development in Central Asia, emphasizing that it is centered in the field of soil and water management. He specifically underlined that

ICARDA has done a great job in bringing suitable technologies in soil, water and crop management and in organizing training activities in the region. He also said that CACILM recognizes that it can be an effective development institution only if its operations are based on sound knowledge of the region and through support of development partners like ICARDA. Finally, Dr. John Patterson assured that CACILM Secretariat will do its utmost to support agriculture research for development in the region.

### ***Technical Session - I: Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Research and CACILM***

**Chairpersons: Acad. Tolib Nabiyeu and John Patterson**  
**Rapporteur: Dr. Raisa Taryanikova and Ms. Jamal Annaklycheva**

#### **CACILM – Sustainable land management research component – Dr. Richard Thomas, Director, NRMP, ICARDA**

Dr. Richard Thomas greeted the participants, indicating he was happy to see that the stakeholders' number participating in the workshop has been broadened. He then explained about the main objectives of Sustainable land management research component (SLM) approach and its functioning mechanisms. He emphasized that ICARDA will be lead implementing agency, the program will be developed at multi-country level but activities will occur at National level and National activities to be supervised by the National Coordination Council. He also briefed about main elements that are able to ensure the success of SLM, including technology linking to the multi-level analytical Logical framework, and selection of the right land management options of on-farm experiments.

#### **CACILM Multicountry Support Knowledge Management –Dr. Judy Vermudo, ADB**

Dr. Judy Vermudo presented an overview of the Knowledge Management System of the CACILM project, including goal, objectives and strategy. She highlighted importance of Knowledge Sharing Mechanism for dissemination of knowledge between stakeholders actively working at CACILM Project. She indicated website <https://cacilm.adb.org> where the partners of the project could get news of the project and disseminate benefits of tested high promising technologies among all users. She emphasized that establishing linkages with bilateral development projects funded by ADB and other donors will be critical for wider dissemination of improved technologies on farmers' fields in both Russian and local languages.

#### **Sustainable Land Management Information System (SLIMS)- Dr. Riccardo Biancalani, Land Tenure and Management Unit (NRLA), FAO, Rome**

Dr. Riccardo Biancalani presented an overview of the SLIMS of CASILM Project, including goals, benefits and phases, Linkage of SLMIS with Performance Monitoring System. He emphasized importance of Understanding of Land Degradation causes and processes, establishing methodologies for data collection and analysis, development of GIS application for Land Degradation assessment and monitoring up- and down-scaling mechanism for Land Degradation information. He provided website <http://lada.virtualcentre.org>, for getting more information on SLIMS.

Mr. Alexey Volkov, UNDP representative, highlighted the role of UNDP in developing of capacity building among the stakeholders of the Project.

### ***Discussion***

Dr. Bulat Bekniyazov, Kazakhstan thanked Organizers of the Workshop for inviting him to the event and said that ICARDA should be a leading organization in conducting research activities and technical backstopping since ICARDA has wide experience and its staff including outstanding and professional scientists who can easily address project component tasks were highlighted by speakers and the ICARDA staff should actively be involved in the technical expertise of the Projects launched in CAC countries last years. He also underlined that there is a need for feasibility research at different levels of water management entities.

Dr. Kubanichbek Kulov has much appreciated the GIS maps were displayed in Dr. Ricardo's presentation and proposed to create such Maps for all CAC region which will be useful for dissemination of the technologies, which were successfully adopted in ADB Soil and Water project under second phase, in wider scale.

Acad. Rasulmat Khusanov emphasized importance to determine main users of Project outputs achieved at the end of the project. He highlighted that during Soviet time many research institutes developed the new advanced technologies to combat with land degradation but these technologies couldn't find a consumer. He emphasized to use farmer knowledge and together develop new strategies which could solve issues related to soil degradation which is still has increasing trend from one to next year. He underlined that damage due to soil degradation process should be presented in higher political level and without this action it wouldn't be possible to make real a positive difference in soil degradation processes.

Dr. Sanginboy Sanginov, Tajikistan agreed with Dr. B. Bekniyazov's statement related to leading role of ICARDA in SLM Project and requested to kindly indicate responsibilities and main role of International organization such as FAO, UNDP and ADB in SLM Project in the Project documentations.

Acad. Jamin Akimaliev, Kyrgyzstan said that it is necessary to involve NARs partners actively in implementing of the project activities. Research activities are to be coordinated by ICARDA, since it has a great confidence from Kyrgyzstan's NARs. During discussion, participants expressed their appreciation to Dr. Richard Thomas Ms. Judy Vermudo and Mr. Biancalani Riccardo for their interesting presentation with highlighting of main purposes of the SLM research component, Objectives and Project Components Support Project.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

Acad. Tolib Nabiyev, Tajikistan emphasized a need for maximum involving of NARs in Project activities and expressed desire that ADB will be provided collection and dissemination data via publication.

**Technical Session – II: Integrated Systems Analysis for Sustainable Land Management Research, Problems, Innovations, Extended Partnerships, and Proposals on Research Sites and Expectations from SLM-R project**

**Chairpersons: Drs. Richard Thomas and Bakhtiyar Kadirov**

**Rapporteurs: Dr. Abdulla Saparov and Dr. Nazar Korpeyev**

Dr. Raj Gupta, ICARDA-CAC made an oral presentation titled “An Overview with Agroecologies, Production Systems, Land Degradation Problems, Criteria for Site Selection, Activities and Partnerships and Technology Options”. In his presentation the following outputs were presented as

- development of SLM-R Work plans
- Final agreement on site (s) as reached in the workshop
- Potential extended Partnerships ( Institutions/ Experts)
- Ensuring demonstration of SLM-R activities in all 5 Central Asian countries
- Use of technical approaches that will be required to address land degradation issues in the *linked CACILM Projects*.
- Ensure that technical, social and economic issues are factored-in for sustainable land management.

Joint presentation on SLM in Uzbekistan was done by Head, NSEK & National Coordinators from CAC: Prof. Abdushukur Khanazarov and Dr. Raisa Taryanikova, Uzbekistan. Prof. Abdushukur Khanazarov in his presentation highlighted the issues related to soil degradation (soil salinity, soil erosion) resulting in decreasing of crop productivity, the ameliorative actions to be applied (crop rotations, irrigation practices, farming practices, fertility management options) and proposed the experimental sites to be used for demonstration the advanced technologies (Boikozon farm, Hodjakabud farm in Djizak province, Kushman ata farm in Syrdarya province, Kizilkum site in Navoi province).

Acad. Jamin Akimaliev and Dr. Kubanychbek Kulov, Kyrgyzstan made presentation on Integrated analysis for SLM research in Kyrgyzstan. Acad. Akimaliev in his presentation highlighted the main issues existing in agriculture after collapsing of Soviet Union such as soil salinity, soil erosion increasing, overgrazed pastures, and lack of professionalism of staff involved in water management organization. He demonstrated that new technologies related to introducing alfalfa in crop rotations, raised bed planting, WUA establishment and other technologies aimed to effectively using of soil and water resources under CACILM Project would significantly improve livelihood of the rural population, who are making up 75 % from the total country population.

Acad. Tolib Nabiev and Dr. H. Ahmadov, Tajikistan made presentation on “Main tendency towards to SLM”. Dr. Ahmadov in his speech emphasized importance to introduce new advanced soil and water saving technologies, new crop varieties, develop human capacity building actions to prevent further decreasing of livelihood peoples living in the rural areas.

Dr. Abdulla Saparov and Ms. Margulya Baekenova made presentation on “Analysis of research system for SLM”. Dr. Saparov in his speech indicated main reasons of soil degradation, lower land use efficiency, including lower land productivity under increase in area cropping system (extensive agriculture), intensive exploitation of land resources for oil processing factories, huge amount of military polygons, soil salinity increasing, wind and water erosion, worsening of land quality.

Dr. Ashyr Saparmuradov and Dr. Nazar Korpeyev, Turkmenistan made presentation on Analysis of integrated system on SLM: Problems, innovations, partnerships and outputs during SLM Project. Dr. Saparmuradov in his presentation highlighted main causes inducing the soil salinity, soil and water erosion. He emphasized that there is need to change the political options in the rural area with actively involving farmers in decision process.

Presentation was done by National Coordinator Dr. Margulya Baekenova on Integrated analysis of system for SLM research, Kazakhstan

After presentations Dr. Richard Thomas showed a matrix with list of the main problem (soil salinity, erosion and fertility, rangeland and WUE) via CA Countries, which were selected according to proposed in previously Meeting (in March). It was suggested for selection one site via countries. However participants request to include 2 sites via country due to different agro-climatic condition.

### **Discussion and Decisions**

Concluding Remarks

Include 2 sites via country due to different agro-climatic condition.

### **DAY-2**

**July 2, 2007 (Tuesday)**

**Technical Session – III: Discussions on Technical Session -II Selection of experimental benchmark sites in CAC countries**

**Chairpersons: Drs. Richard Thomas and Acad. Jamin Akimaliev**

**Rapporteurs: Mr. H. Ahmadov and Ms. Margulya Baekenova**

The main purposes were the following:

(1) Selection of two research sites for cross country (2) Approaches based on (Agro-ecologies, Distinguishing Characteristics of the Sites, Production Systems and their Problems.

(3) Extended partnerships and linkages with other projects

Presentations on selection sites were done by Head and National Coordinators from CAC Dr. Malik Bekenov, Kyrgyzstan, Dr. Sanginboy Sanginov, Tajikistan, Prof. Abdushukur Khanazarov, Uzbekistan, Dr. Abdulla Saparov, Kazakhstan as well as Dr. Ashyr Saparmuradov, Turkmenistan. The participants selected the following 10 sites (2 via country):

Kazakhstan

1. Chardara area (SKZ) and Shieli area (Kzyl-Orda Province) (flat area)

2. Mayakum (sands) desert Djambul Province (flat area)

Kyrgyzstan

3. Daniyar farm Sokuluk District Chu valley (flat area)

4. Kenenbay site Sokuluk District (sloping area)

Tajikistan

5. Faizabad site Faizabad district (sloping area)

6. Vakhsh site Vakhsh valley (flat area)

Turkmenistan

7. Akhmed Farm Sakra-chaga District and Murgab District of Mary Province (Total area of 5600 ha) (flat area)

8. Kopetdag plain, Bugdaily (Ak-Bugdai) District, Akhal Province (flat area)

Uzbekistan

9. Khodjakobod farm, Pakhtakor District, Djizakh Province (flat area)

10. Kyzyl-Kum Desert (flat area)

## **Discussion and Decisions**

### **Concluding Remarks**

#### **Technical Session – IV: Project Work Plans: Socio-economic, Policy and Technology Options for Improved Livelihoods and Identification of Development Pathways**

**Chairpersons: Acad. Rasulmat Khusanov and Dr. Kamel Shideed**

**Rapporteurs:**

Dr. Kamel Shideed made an oral presentation on Enabling Policy Options for Sustainable Land Management with SLMR Work Plan on Research Prospectus for SLM Research and Development Pathways in Central Asia and with examples on Policy Effectiveness in Dry Areas (WANA Region: Jordan, Egypt, Syria, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia)

General discussions

Dr Kubanychbek Kulov, Kyrgyzstan noted that it is necessary use going methodologies for Policy Options for Sustainable Land Management in CAC region.

Acad. Mekhlis Suleymenov: For development of enabling policy environment to enhance the uptake and impact of improved SLM options for poverty reduction and environmental sustainability it is necessary take into account different policy in CAC region. In CAC region there is not mechanism for dissemination.

Ms. Margulya Baekenova: Examples on Policy Effectiveness in Dry Areas (WANA Region: Jordan, Egypt, Syria, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia) not exactly in CAC region.

Dr. Raisa Taryanikova noted that it is necessary to developed strategies on basis of research. Drs. H. Ahmadov and R. Ikramov were agreed with it due to different socio-political status in CAC.

### **Concluding remarks**

Brief information on Interventions of the National Partners for linkages with National Program Frameworks and on cross country analysis was done by Heads of NSEKs (CACILM) Dr Kubanychbek Kulov, Kyrgyzstan, Dr. H Ahmadov, Tajikistan, Dr. Margulya Baekenova, Kazakhstan, Dr. Gulchekhra Khasankhanova, Uzbekistan and Dr. Nazar Korpeyev, Turkmenistan

Dr. H Ahmadov, Tajikistan made an oral presentation on role National Working Group CCD U.N.O. in Tajikistan.

General discussions

Concluding remarks

## **DAY-3 (July 4, Wednesday)**

**Session – V:**

**Chairpersons: Dr. S. Beniwal and John Patterson**

Presentation of Tentative Action Research Plans by Site- Appropriate Technologies for Production system(s), Institutional partners for project implementation and up-scaling and scaling-out

Workplan Group Meetings

Three working groups were organized to discuss research activities:

- 1) Erosion control, Efficient Irrigation, Salinity, Conservation Agriculture and Crop Diversification (Chairpersons Dr. Mustafa Pala and Acad. Akimaliev)
- 2) Rehabilitation Rangeland and Feed Production (Chairpersons Dr. Suratbek Yusupov)
- 3) Socio-economic research (Chairperson Dr. Kamel Shideed).

#### Group I

Chairman: Acad. Jamin Akimaliev

Participants:

Participants have selected the research activities in the following thematic areas for two sites:

- A. Irrigation induced erosion control in Sloping lands
- B. Efficient Irrigation Water Management in the Plains
- D. Salinity /Sodicity Management
- E. Conservation Agriculture (Dry/Irrigated areas)
- F. Crop Diversification

In thematic area of C. Use of Waste Waters participants have not been chosen any activities.

#### **Group II**

**Chairman: Chairpersons Dr. Suratbek Yusupov**

Participants:

Recommendations of the working group II

Specific activities:

#### **Group III**

**Chairman: Chairpersons Dr. Kamel Shideed**

Participants:

Recommendations of the working group III

Specific activities:

The revised draft research activities document has again been circulated to all concerned for their comments.

The research activities document has been discussed by all participants.

Joint presentation were done by Head, NSEK & National Coordinators from CAC Acad. Jamin Akimaliev and Dr. R. Ikramov (Working group 1), and Dr. Suratbek Yusupov (Working group 2) and Alisher Mirzabaev (Working group 3)

#### **Discussions**

##### **On Socio-economic research**

Acad. Jamin Akimaliev, Kyrgyzstan noted that it is necessary to bring research to users. In future emphasis should be done on methodology. Socio-economic research doesn't coordinate with legislation. It is necessary to provide inventory and harmonization. There are many good varieties of crops and stock in CAC region. However breeders lost varieties of sheep.

##### **Concluding Remarks**

It is necessary to provide the following:

Integral research component on biophysical research

Important harmonize methodology

Comparative analysis on research

Policy framework how it can be developed

On important aspect on Socio-economic research we need to work in cooperation to understand how we need work Legislation and modification base.

### **Session – VI: Finance**

#### **Presentation of Project Finances Presentation of Workshop Report**

Dr. Raj Gupta, ICARDA-CAC made an oral presentation on SLMR Project with Financial plan.

Discussions and remarks of the Chair Persons

Participants request total of 400,000 \$USA for research activities as well as to include in financial plan expenses for item on domestic consultant.

It was suggested to write a Supplementary requirement program with detailed budget to Head of National secretariats and contact with other donors.

### **Plenary Session**

**Chairpersons: Dr. S. Beniwal**

**Rapporteur: Dr. Raj Gupta**

Closing remarks were made by Dr. John Patterson who thanked all the speakers and the participants of the meeting. He emphasized that quality of research activities in line with agricultural technologies. He also thanked the Regional office staff for their excellent support in organizing this successful meeting.