

ClimaRice Stakeholder Conference

Program and details of proceedings

Dr.V.Geethalakshmi, Professor and Head, Agro Climate Research Centre and principal Investigator, ClimaRice welcomed the gatherings and explained the genesis of the project since inception and project achievements. Dr. Nagothu Udaya Sekhar, International Coordinator, Bioforsk briefed on the integration of stakeholders in climate research and developing adaptation strategies.



Audience at the conference.

The climate change adaptation research being carried out in Andhra Pradesh was explained to the stakeholders by Dr.Kota Thirupathiah, IFS, Director General, Water and Management Training and Research Institute (WALAMTARI,) Hyderabad. Mr. Ole Riedar Bergum, First Secretary, The Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi highlighted the India-Norway cooperation in Climate, energy and adaptation. Dr. Subodh Sharma, Advisor, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India delivered key note address on the Current research in India to address climate change impacts. The book entitled "Sustaining Rice production in a warmer planet " and the ClimaRice project third News Letter were released during the conference. Dr.P.Subbian, Registrar, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University delivered the inaugural address on Climate change and food security.

The seeds of short duration rice cultivar, IET 5764 which comes to harvest in 75 - 80 days and found to be suitable to extreme weather events were handed over to ClimaRice dissemination centres for mass multiplication and subsequent distribution to the Clima farmers for validation.



Rice varieties.

In the technical session, Dr.H.Annamalai presented the Climate modeling results to stakeholders. Dr.V.Geethalakshmi briefed the integration of Climate, hydrological and crop weather models and Dr.A.Lakshmanan summarized various adaptation and mitigation strategies developed in ClimaRice project. Dr.Trond Rafoss explained the initiatives being taken up on pest and disease modeling and the mobile based pest and disease forewarning system. Dr.Hakon Borch presented the developments on creation of web based data base. Dr.K.Palanisamy briefed the ClimaRice activities being taken up in Krishna Basin, Andhra Pradesh. Ms. Rebekka Ovestegard highlighted the importance of addressing gender issues in ClimaRice and informed the stakeholders about the activities to be carried out on gender issues.

Mr.Narayanan, Farmer from Abhisekapuram, Trichy shared his experiences in Drip irrigation to rice and integrated farming system. Mr.Ranganathan, Chairman of Cauvery Delta Development Studies (CCDDS) discussed the importance of promoting indigenous technologies for facing climate change issues in agriculture.

The officials from Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, Water Resource Organization, Voluntary Organizations and Farmers Association besides water managers and farmers participated and discussed the various adaptation measures and also to explore the scope of developing future strategies to resolve the crisis due to climate change in Agriculture.



Focus group discussions in afternoon session.



In the afternoon, farmers from Cauvery and Bhavani River Basin actively participated in the group discussions. The stakeholders were divided into groups and deliberated on Climate change and adaptation strategies, Policy and gender issues. In the end, Dr.V.Geethalaksmi summarized the outcome of the conference and extended vote of thanks.