

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU)

TNAU is a leading agrotechnology provider of India and its graduate are recognised throughout the world. TNAU had its genesis from establishment of an Agricultural School at Saidapet, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India as early as 1868 which was later relocated at Coimbatore during 1906. The University offering Thirteen Undergraduate degree programs in fourteen colleges distributed all over Tamil Nadu. TNAU has 36 Research centres for agrotechnology development and fourteen farm science centres for out reach. The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), GOI ranked TNAU as the first among the State Agricultural Universities in India.

School of Post Graduate Studies (SPGS)

Postgraduate Education in Agriculture was started in 1933-34 when the University of Madras recognized the Agricultural College, Coimbatore as a centre for M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees. The School of Postgraduate Studies offers Masters programs, M.Sc.(Ag.)/M.Tech. in 33 disciplines, Doctoral programs in 27 disciplines, External Doctoral programs in 28 disciplines. Students from all over India and overseas seek admission. International Students from Nigeria, Rwanda, Sudan, Afghanistan, Nepal and Vietnam are enrolled students at this university. A new revolutionary Direct Doctoral Program is introduced from 2013 onwards wherein the undergraduates are directly enrolled into this program giving more time for doing research in Agronomy, Agricultural Microbiology, Agricultural Entomology and Plant Breeding and Genetics. We encourage the PG students to publish their thesis research work in peer reviewed impact factor journals besides motivating them for technology development and patenting.

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)

APAARI is a voluntary, membership-based, apolitical and multi-stakeholder regional organization located at Thailand, was established in 1990 at the initiative of FAO and several National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) of the Asia-Pacific region. It is bridging national, regional and global stakeholders to bring about collective change in agri-food systems of Asia and the Pacific. APAARI's close links and collaboration with wide network of members and partners are instrumental in strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems towards more sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific region. One of its core values is to continually enhance knowledge and skills to achieve its vision of strengthening research and innovations for sustainable agricultural development. APAARI members, partners and other stakeholders, believe that only science that can identify the most efficient and sustainable production systems and innovation is paramount to overcoming the broader challenges facing the Asia-Pacific region.

About the Workshop

This training workshop is a capacity building program to enhance the skills of TNAU faculties in the knowledge management to strengthen TNAU's arrangements for effective delivery of outcomes from agri-food research and innovation systems. Further, the workshop aims to enhance organizational capacity for good governance, effective management and delivery of research and innovation. It is a response to the increasing need to strengthen higher education institutions (HEIs) to address the existing challenges faced by agri-food systems. Overall, this training workshop will be conducted by international expert from APAARI, Thailand, GCHERA, Canada and FAO, Italy that aims to train the personnel of TNAU, who will be expected to act as trainers themselves and apply the learning in their work, as a way of initializing university transformation in higher education and research through human resource development. For more information, refer Concept note.

Outcome

- Inspire transformation of teachers into leaders that promote career development in agricultural professions.
- Sensitizes key processes involved in teaching that support creativity and innovation to ensure agricultural education transformation.
- Build individual, organizational and institutional functional capacities of TNAU to enable the trainees to engage students through collective and co-operative learning, joint analysis, and collaboration.
- Piloting the integration of the agricultural innovation system (AIS) perspective and functional capacities (soft skills) in university curricula and existing teaching processes.
- Improves the understanding of the AIS perspectives and skills needed to support human resource development in agricultural education.
- Motivates participants to commit to university transformation and develop skills necessary for enabling knowledge-sharing culture to accelerate agricultural innovation.

Contents

This training workshop is a tailor-made module to infuse the key concepts and processes of Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CD for AIS) and Knowledge Management (KM) to guide transformation of agricultural education systems. Highlighting aspects are hands-on exercises and group learning which focuses on the development of soft skills or 'functional capacities' at the three levels - individual, organizational and institutional, to build capacities for agricultural innovation, in addition to technical skills. This program helps the participants to harmonize the diversity of approaches to CD for AIS of various development actors. It is a package which encompasses an in-depth study of the innovation system, applications of KM in agricultural education and facilitates the participant to gain a solid understanding of the KM and communication tools, including Social Media and monitoring tools that support learning, engagement, collaboration and knowledge-sharing culture.

Who should Attend

Registered faculties in leadership, management and teaching positions, and 5 young university champions (max. 40 participants) of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University with an undertaking to train the remaining faculties and students in the Directorate / College of the University.