

CDIS-Output 3 News

September 2015

The Project for Capacity Development and Institutional Strengthening of the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock in Afghanistan (CDIS) -Collaboration between Research and Extension-

TOPICS

1. Soil Training in Japan
2. Demonstration Plot of BBES
3. Mir Bacha Kot Construction Plan
4. Management Training started



Trainees and Dr. Suzuki in front of a giant replica of folds in the Upper Jurassic

International Centre in Ibaraki Prefecture for 4 days and received some lectures and visited Geological Museum. Trainees stayed in Tokyo for a day and visited Tokyo University of Agriculture. On 12th September, they moved to Okinawa Prefecture. They are going to stay in Okinawa until 10th October. In Okinawa, they go to Okinawa Prefectural Agricultural Research Center every day to learn the skills they need for soil chemical analysis and soil diagnosis. Okinawa prefecture is the best place for Afghanistan researchers to go to receive trainings on soil, because Okinawa is the only place in Japan that has, like Afghanistan, alkaline soil together with drought problems. Besides, trainers are excellent with high skills to solve farmer's problems. Two soil members, Mr. Bismillah and Mr. Sadullah of the soil department, MAIL have been trained last year on soil survey and soil analysis over there. After going back to Kabul, they became good instructor in the laboratory. The project is expecting new trainees will master useful technologies to support the laboratory together with the previous trainees.

1. Training on Soil Analysis and Soil Diagnosis has started and two trainees, Mr. Mohsin Burhan and Mr. Nasratullah Sediqi, arrived in Japan on 6th September. The training aims for the trainees (1) to learn basic technologies of soil chemical analysis and soil diagnosis, (2) to learn basic information on soil and agricultural production in Japan, (3) to learn what PDCA is and how to apply PDCA cycle in the research works, and (4) to formulate research work plans on the basis of the training results. They stayed in Tsukuba



Trainees are listening explanation made by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suzuki in front of evaporimeter

2. Tomato was planted in the demonstration plot of BBES. Tomato is one of the four target crops namely wheat, grape, tomato and beans, of CDIS-Output3. This year, we tried to introduce cherry tomato and middle sized tomato to study cultivation method as tomato with higher eating quality together with Horticulture Department. However, due to lack of water and breakdown of water pumps, tomato did not grow well at the field. CDIS-Output3 has planted beans such as soy beans and chickpeas with drip irrigation under supervision of Legume and Industrial Crop Improvement Department. Growth of beans was normal in the start, but it was also affected by lack of irrigation water it was harvested though. The data sheet is under preparation by Mr. Saboor, Manager of BBES.



Tomato Demo Plot, BBES

3. Construction of FRC (Farmer Resource Centre) in Mir Bacha Kot is on its way. CDIS-Output3 FRC construction supervisor Mr. Alim has presented the almost-final plan to MAIL and received some comments for alterations. Mr. Alim met Mr. Hotta, a Japanese expert who is in charge of FRC construction supervision, in Dubai to discuss the plan in details. At the same time, CDIS-Output3 prepared bidding documents with specifications. Bidding documents will be distributed at the end of October, and the construction company will be selected. Then, the construction will start under the supervision of the consulting company and Mr. Alim.



Meeting in Dubai (Mr. Hotta and Mr. Alim)

After the completion in 2016, the FRC will be utilized to serve the farmers by providing trainings and sharing knowledge. More importantly, it will provide a place for researchers and extensions officers to meet the farmers to listen to their needs.

4. Agricultural Research Management Cycle Training has started on 27th September. The training aims for the participants 1) to develop capacity of managerial researchers for strengthening of research organization and research stations, 2) to develop capacity of managerial researchers for implementation of research activities, 3) to apply PDCA cycle into research management, and 4) to learn collaborative working practices of agricultural research, agricultural extension and farmers. Thus we called for the participations of managerial officials and six officers came to Japan to participate. The training is two weeks long and the participants will go back to Afghanistan on 10th October. During their stay in Japan, they will receive lectures regarding research managements and visit research institutions. So far, they have visited National Agriculture and Food Research Organization and Ibaraki Agricultural Center. They will visit Kihara Institute for Biological Research, Yokohama City University in order to discuss how to further utilize the achievements of SATRREPS project. They also have some discussions with CDIS-Output3 team members in order to accelerate the implementation of CDIS-Output3 activities.

List of Participants	
Eng. Mohd Qasem Obaidi	Adoptive Research Director, ARGD, MAIL
Mr. Kh. Sayed Jan Alawi	Head of Planning Department, ARGD, MAIL
Ms. Sakina Amarkhil	Manager of the Soil Lab, ARGD, MAIL
Mr. Ghiasuden Ghanizada	Head of Plant Protection Research Department, ARGD, MAIL
Ms. Suhilla Nisar	Head of Legume and Industrial Crop Improvement Department, ARGD, MAIL
Mr. Mohammad Hanif Afzali	Head of Irrigation Department, ARGD, MAIL



Lecture on Role of Research Institutions



Presentation of Job Report