

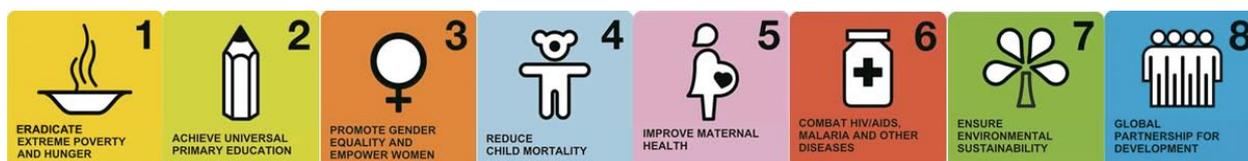
CONTENTS

- **News Highlights**
- **Project Activities**
 - A. On-going Projects
 - B. Newly Approved Projects
 - C. Projects in the Pipeline
- **Recent Events Participated by APCAEM**
- **Publications and Study Reviews**
 - A. Publications
 - B. Study Reports
- **Member Country Information**
- **Calendar of Events**

Welcome to the second issue of the APCAEM e-Newsletter

The United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (APCAEM) is a subsidiary body/regional institution of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), based in Beijing, P.R. China.

As a subsidiary body of UNESCAP, APCAEM is guided by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Centre is particularly committed to make contributions to achieving MDGs 1, 3, 7, and 8 for the Asian and Pacific region through the implementation of its mandated functions and work programmes endorsed by the Governing Council of APCAEM and approved by the Commission.



This is the second issue of the APCAEM e-Newsletter following the inaugural issue, which was released back in November 2006. As announced in the first issue, APCAEM will issue the e-Newsletter twice a year (biannual basis) starting this year in 2007.

This issue contains the latest information on news highlights, the Centre's project activities, both on-going and newly approved ones, as well as the project proposals in the pipeline. Some of the major events participated by APCAEM is also included in this issue. The publications and study reviews section of the e-Newsletter contains brief abstracts of the Centre's recent publications and summaries of the study reports commissioned by APCAEM. The member country information section covers noteworthy announcements of major activities and partnership efforts in connection with the Centre. The calendar of events section lists up the major events of relevance to the Centre and other stakeholders from April 2007 through 2008.

APCAEM sincerely wish that the readership and the stakeholders find the current issue of e-Newsletter highly informative and a useful channel for e-communications.

- Chief Editor -

News Highlights

Head/Senior Economic Affairs Officer of APCAEM attended the sixty-third session of the Commission of UNESCAP in Almaty, Kazakhstan



Dr. Joong-Wan CHO attended the sixty-third session of the Commission session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in Almaty, Kazakhstan, 17-23 May 2007. This annual session was held in Central Asia for the first time since the founding of UNESCAP in March, 1947 in Shanghai, China.

The Commission reviewed the work of the UNESCAP regional institutions, including APCAEM. In his introduction, the Executive Secretary of UNESCAP informed the Commission that the programmes of work of the regional institutions were now an integral component of the strategic framework and programme of work of UNESCAP for the biennium 2006-2007.

A number of delegations to the Commission session indicated that they had attached great importance to the programme of work of APCAEM, and had benefited from the expertise and knowledge provided through seminars and workshops organized by the Centre, especially in the areas of agro-export competitiveness and access to regional markets through the promotion of trade fairs. The host country delegation expressed its satisfaction with the work of the Centre and stated that it would con-

tinue to provide support to the Centre, and would consider providing permanent office premises.

The Executive Secretary expressed satisfaction that the secretariat's efforts during the past years, aimed at revitalizing the regional institutions of UNESCAP, had begun to yield concrete results. The programmes of work of the regional institutions had become more closely aligned with the priorities of the Commission and were now fully integrated within the biennial programme of work of UNESCAP. Further, funding resources for some regional institutions had become more diversified. The Executive Secretary expressed his intention to transfer more technical cooperation projects from UNESCAP headquarters to the regional institutions in order that those institutions could better serve as operational arms of UNESCAP.

The second sessions of the Technical Committee (TC) and the Governing Council (GC) of APCAEM held in Suwon, Republic of Korea



The second sessions of the Technical Committee and the Governing Council of APCAEM were held successfully in Suwon, Republic of Korea, on 20-21 November and 23-24 November 2006, respectively. The second session of the Technical Committee was attended by representatives of Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. Expert resource persons and observers from India, Japan, U.S.A., and the Food

and Agriculture Organization (FAO) also attended the session.



Dr. KIM Hak-Su, Executive Secretary of UNESCAP, participated in the second session of the Governing Council, which was attended by representatives of China, India, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam. Representatives of Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, as well as FAO and the National Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Rural Development Administration of the Republic of Korea attended the session as observers.

Dr. Joong-Wan CHO, Head/Senior Economic Affairs Officer (SEAO) of APCAEM, presented to the Committee and the Council the work report of APCAEM for 2006, the work plan for 2007, as well as the proposed outline of the Programme of Work for the biennium 2008-2009.

A Roundtable Forum for Regional Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers/Distributors Associations held back to back with the second session of the Technical Committee of APCAEM

A Roundtable Forum for Regional Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers/Distributors Associations was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea (ROK), on 22 November 2006. The Forum was organized by APCAEM in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of ROK and Korea Agricultural Machinery Industry Coopera-

tive (KAMICO). More than 70 participants attended the Forum, including representatives of the national associations for agricultural machinery manufacturers and distributors in the region and FAO. The event was held back to back with the second session of the Technical Committee (TC) of APCAEM. All TC members were also invited to participate in the Forum.

Dr. Joong-Wan CHO, Head/SEAO of APCAEM and Mr. CHOI Do-II, Director-General of Food/Grain Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of ROK delivered opening statements.

The Forum was co-chaired by Dr. Bill Stout, former President of the International Commission of Agricultural Engineering and Professor Wang Maohua of China Agricultural University and academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering. Key resource persons from Bangladesh, China, India, ROK and the European Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ENTAM) in Rome made presentations on the current status of the agricultural machinery industry in their respective country, including the European Union, and on the strategies to identify and overcome trade barriers.



The Forum led to the formulation of recommendations and suggestions on strengthening the agricultural machinery industry and the supporting infrastructure to enhance information and technology exchange as well as trade promotion. Follow-up activities will include the possibility of establishing the Asian Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM).

APCAEM launched Policy Brief research



A quarterly Policy Brief, launched for the first time by APCAEM, aims to promote knowledge networking and information sharing on key emerging issues related to the three thematic cluster programmes of APCAEM. The Policy Brief covers the cross-cutting themes in the mandated work programmes of the Centre. Practical policy recommendations and advice, strategic directions and action programmes are offered in the Policy Brief for agricultural policy makers and other stakeholders on key issues, as well as challenges and opportunities facing the dynamic Asia-Pacific region. In addition, the Centre will undertake policy synthesis and normative research and studies, linking and applying the major findings and outcomes of the research studies to capacity building and training for developing member countries at the project level.

The inaugural issue, entitled *Environmentally-Sound Rural Economic Growth: Policy Implications and Options for Bioenergy and Agricultural Development*, will be published in June 2007. The second issue, entitled *Towards Conservation Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities*, is scheduled to be published at the end of September 2007.

The redesigned APCAEM website that is simpler and more user-friendly in terms of navigation, quick links and shortcuts, is now available. The URL www.unapcaem.org remains the same. The new Website retains all of its previous information resources, including documents and publications, and offers useful information on upcoming events and major project activities of the Centre.

APCAEM redesigned its Website



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New staff of APCAEM reported on duty

To further strengthen the human resource base of the Centre, APCAEM is pleased to announce the recruitment of three new staff members of the Centre. Ms. Yinghua ZHOU, Staff Assistant, reported for duty on 15 March 2007, is assisting the office of the Head/SEAO with operational and research activities. Ms. Xiaojing BAI, Programme Assistant, reported for duty on 15 May 2007, is supporting programme management and planning for the Food Supply Chain Management and Agro-Enterprise and Trade cluster programmes. Mr. Guodong CHANG, Driver/Messenger, who reported for duty on 24 May 2007, is providing logistics and messenger services for the Office.

Upcoming major events to be organized by APCAEM

APCAEM will host three major events in China during the second half of 2007: (i) a training course on *Enhancing the Access of Agro-based SMEs to Regional Markets through Trade Fair Promotion* on 24 September 2007 during the International Fruit/Vegetable/Food Exposition in Yantai, Shandong Province; (ii) an international seminar on *Enhancing Extension of Conservation Agriculture Techniques in Asia and the Pacific* from 24-26 October 2007 in Zhengzhou, Henan Province; and (iii) a regional seminar on *Policy Framework for Promoting Bio-Energy-related (Green) Enterprise Development* scheduled for November 2007 at a venue yet to be confirmed. For detailed information, please refer to the Project Activities section below.

Project Activities

A. On-going Projects

International Seminar on Restructuring and Strengthening Research and Development (R&D) for Agricultural Engineering



An international seminar on *Restructuring and Strengthening Research and Development (R&D) for Agricultural Engineering* was held in Beijing, China from 27-28 April 2007. More than 50 experts

from the Ministry of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Institutes and Academia, Agricultural Machinery Associations and the private sector from 11 member countries attended the Seminar. The participants reviewed the current status of R&D on Agricultural Engineering (AE) in the region, exchanged views on how to restructure and strengthen R&D on agricultural engineering in line with the rapid development of agricultural science and technology.

APCAEM presented the major findings of the four research papers prepared by international experts, and the current status of AE development in selected member countries; the status of R&D on AE in China; a case study on China's restructuring in science and technology, and an overview report. Nine country status papers were also presented by experts from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, China, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. During the concluding session, the participants formulated policy recommendations, strategy and programmes on strengthening and restructuring agricultural engineering and technology for commercial-oriented R&D.

Enhancing the Access of Agro-based Small and Medium-sized Enterprises to Regional Markets through Trade Fair Promotion



Since 1999, International Fruit/Vegetable/Food Exposition (F/V/F) has become a flagship project symboliz-

ing the cooperation between UNESCAP and the Government of China. The Expo has contributed greatly to the promotion of regional trade in agricultural and food processing equipment, agricultural inputs, packaging materials, fresh and processed food.



Supporting SMEs through trade fairs and expositions is one of the mandated work programmes of APCAEM. This ongoing project aims to assist qualified agro-SMEs in the region to access the regional network through the International F/V/F Expo in Yantai, China, 23-26 September 2007. During the Expo, APCAEM will offer a full-day training on how trade fair organizers conduct Expo in line with the international standards, and how SMEs better access regional and global markets. The Expo will also provide an opportunity for agro-SMEs to build networks and partnerships. Field visits to local food processing facilities will also be arranged.

International Seminar on Conservation Agriculture



An international seminar on *Enhancing Extension of Conservation Agriculture (CA) Techniques in Asia and the Pacific* is scheduled to be held in Zhengzhou, Henan Province, China from 24-26 October

2007. The objective of the Seminar is to promote the extension of CA techniques and enhance the awareness of agronomic, economic and environmental benefits of new developments and progress in CA. The seminar participants include agricultural experts/advisors, policy makers and grassroots farmers. The tentative topics of the Seminar include (i) climate change mitigation and adaptation and CA for sustainable agricultural development; (ii) CA techniques and equipment; (iii) applications and extension services in CA; (iv) policy and strategy for the CA development. The Seminar is co-sponsored by the

Ministry of Agriculture of China, China Agricultural University, with in-kind contributions from the provincial government.

B. Newly Approved Projects

The Kyoto Protocol: Potential Contribution from Agricultural Engineering



The Kyoto Protocol specifies the commitments that most industrialized countries must make to reduce their GHG emissions and includes the flexible CDM. This mechanism allows developed countries to indirectly invest in GHG emission reduction projects of developing countries through the purchase of certified emission reductions, and contributes to sustainable development in sponsored developing countries by providing additional funds and advanced technology.

This APCAEM project identifies the CDM applied to agriculture. The proposed project will also identify the issues related to the application of CDM in the agricultural/rural sector and present opportunities for the sectoral application of CDM on biogas, conservation agriculture and diesel engine technology, respectively.

Agro-Biotechnology-based (Green) Enterprise Development for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods and Economic Growth (Second Phase)



Funding for the second phase of the project on *Agro-Biotechnology-based (Green) Enterprise Development for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods and Economic Growth* has been secured from the UNESCAP headquarters. In phase II of the project, key stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific will be invited to participate in a regional seminar on policy framework and strategies for promoting bio-energy-related (green) enterprise devel-

opment. The Seminar is scheduled to be held in November 2007 in parallel with the third session of the APCAEM Technical Committee. As a major outcome of the project, policy-level experts and practitioners in the participating countries are expected to become active advocates for green enterprise development related to renewable clean energy (e.g., bioenergy) development initiative.

Green Technology Policy and Application in Promotion of the Eco-economy: A Case of Mushroom Cultivation Technology for Rural Enterprise Development and Income Generation

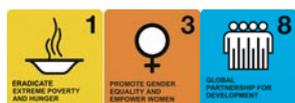


Recently, there has been an unprecedented demand for green production amid a growing environmental concern. The proposed project aims to enhance policy development and capacity building in selected member countries with regard to “green technology” application to mushroom cultivation techniques, promotion of an ecological economy, and income generation for small farmers.

Appropriate “green technology” and effective policies for promoting its extension will be identified through a feasibility study. Micro-policy recommendations and favourable regulatory frameworks for the application of green technology for the eco-economy will also be identified and pursued. In the subsequent phase of the project, a pilot capacity-building/training programme on the extension of the identified green technology will be launched in the Greater Tumen Subregion (GTS) and Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), subject to funding availability.

C. Projects in the Pipeline

Capacity Building of Agribusiness Venture and Women’s Agro-entrepreneurship Development



Today about 80 per cent of the world's poor live in rural areas and the disparity between rural and urban areas keeps widening; moreover, the majority of the rural poor are women. They often have less access to resources and opportunities that are available to men. A possible solution for rural poverty reduction and gender equality is the development of agribusiness ventures and women agro-entrepreneurs so that they can participate in innovative income-generating agricultural activities.

This project proposal aims to develop policy frameworks and strategies for promoting agribusiness ventures and women agro-entrepreneurs. In the subsequent phase of the project and upon availability of funding, pilot agribusiness ventures and women agro-entrepreneurship in selected countries may be launched with a view to creating regional networking opportunity and to enhancing the cooperation for future development of both agribusiness ventures and women's agro-entrepreneurship development.

Strategic Framework for Promoting Agriculture Development in Greater Tumen Subregion (GTS)



Northeast Asia is considered the last major economic frontier of the Asian continent because of its strategic location that includes the Tumen transport corridor with vast natural and human resources, and the accessibility to the resources and markets of Northeast Asia. In 1991, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) agreed to support the development of the region through its Tumen River Area Development Programme (TRADP) and established an institutional mechanism for regional dialogue and cooperation. The five member countries – China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Mongolia, the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the Russian Federation – have been pursuing TRADP to promote economic, environmental and technical cooperation in six areas, namely: energy, tourism, environment,

transportation, telecommunication, and trade and investment.

APCAEM intends to deploy its core strength in the development of the agricultural sector, as an entry point in the extended TRADP framework. The proposed project seeks to achieve a subregion-wide consensus among stakeholders on a series of cross-border and related issues, including investments and trade in agriculture and research, extension and training on agricultural production, and post-harvest processing and marketing. One of the major components of this project is to promote enabling agribusiness investment environment in the Northeast Asia/TRADP framework. In this connection, the Centre is working closely with the UNDP Tumen Secretariat in Beijing on the GTS initiative and the forthcoming 9th Meeting of the GTI Consultative Commission and Investment Forum in October 2007, Vladivostok, the Russian Federation.

Highland Agricultural Development for Rural Poverty Reduction – A Case of Potato Industry Supply Chain



Agriculture in highlands, consisting of hills, plateaus and mountain areas, is crucial to reducing rural poverty in Asia. Recently, potato farming in the highlands has provided enhanced food security to hundreds of millions of people in the developing world, and has been recognized as an area that deserves further attention.

This project proposal aims to identify appropriate potato varieties, quality seed, grain processing technology and suitable machinery for optimal potato production and supply chain. Once identified, workshops and awareness campaigns will be held to disseminate information to government agencies, R&D institutions, extension centres, the private sector, donors, and NGOs in the participating countries. Strategic framework and policy for the value-added potato supply chain will be formulated and introduced to relevant policy-makers and other stakeholders in the region.

Recent Events Participated by APCAEM

Seminar on Renewable Energy held in Beijing



A seminar on *Policy Options for Expansion of Community-Driven Energy Service Provision* was held in Beijing, China from 11-13 March

2007, organized by the Environment and Sustainable Development Division of UNESCAP, back to back with the International Conference on *New Countryside with Renewable Energy*, organized by China Association of Rural Energy Industry (CAREI).

The Seminar focused on the green business development in support of environmentally sustainable economic growth. APCAEM introduced its biogas development initiative and exchanged views on renewable energy development with participants from China, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, and the Philippines, and the SNV (an NGO-based Dutch development cooperation agency).



Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Economic Cooperation Program: Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in Beijing



Since 1992, the six countries of the Mekong River basin had been pursuing a programme of regional cooperation to bolster their sustained economic and social development interest through the GMS Economic Cooperation Pro-

gramme. Agriculture is considered an essential part of the programme to accelerate cross-border and regional cooperation and the integration for economic growth and rural poverty reduction. To this end, the GMS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting was held in Beijing, China from 9-11 April 2007, organized by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The meeting focused on cross-border issues, facilitating trade and investment in agriculture in the Subregion that would contribute to enhanced food security and rural poverty reduction, while ensuring the environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

The Head/SEAO of APCAEM participated in this Meeting and delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the Centre's three thematic cluster programmes of work.

Planning workshop on Strategies and Options for Integrating Biofuels and Rural Renewable Energy for Poverty Reduction in Bangkok



A planning workshop on *Strategies and Options for Integrating Biofuels and Rural Renewable Energy for Poverty Reduction*, jointly organized by FAO, IFAD and ADB, was held in Bangkok, Thailand, 11-13 June 2007. The Work-

shop aimed to reduce poverty among rural households, and contribute to the production of clean energy and sustainable development through the use of biofuels and renewable energy in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS).

The government representatives from six GMS countries, key development partners and regional centres on biofuel participated in this Workshop. The Head/SEAO of APCAEM participated and delivered a presentation to introduce the Centre and its cluster work programmes including the Centre's involvement in the bioenergy-related green enterprise development project.

Workshop on Regulatory and Strategic Framework for Food Safety

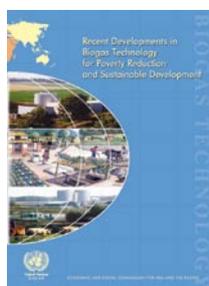
A workshop on *Regulatory and Strategic Framework for Food Safety* in China for policy makers, national and international experts, was held on 21 May 2007 in Dalian, China, organized by ADB, World Health Organization (WHO), and the State Food and Drug Administration of China.

APCAEM programme manager in charge of the Food Supply Chain Management cluster programme, participated in the Workshop. The Workshop covered the current food safety situation in China and a case study of the United Kingdom. A regulatory and strategic framework that could be applied to food control systems in China was also discussed. The third issue of the APCAEM Policy Brief will cover the food safety issues and standards under the WTO's agricultural trade mandate.

Publications and Study Reviews

A. Publications

Recent Development in Biogas Technology for Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development

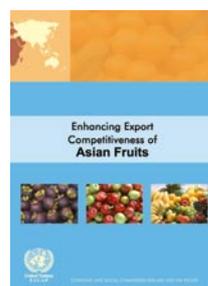


A publication, entitled *Recent Development in Biogas Technology for Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development* was released in April 2007. Recently, there has been a renewed interest in biogas due to increasing concerns for climate change, indoor air pollution and surging oil prices. Such

concerns open up opportunities for utilizing the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) in the promotion of biogas development. The publication contains a summary on the technical, political, and institutional issues involved in the application of CDM from the large-scale

industrial biogas plant to the small household-type biogas digester. The publication contains useful knowledge and information for government policy and decision-makers and the donor community, as well as other key players involved with biogas development and commercialization.

Enhancing Export Competitiveness of Asian Fruits



As one of the major outputs of the international seminar on *Enhancing Export Competitiveness of Asian Fruits* held from 18-19 May 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand, a publication of the same title was published in April 2007. This publication covers an in-depth analysis of

issues, recent development and technical innovation in fruit chain management, and policies and action plans for improving export competitiveness of Asian fruits. The new publication is an informally edited version of the compilation of discussions and research papers presented at the Seminar.

B. Study Reports

I. Restructuring and Strengthening Research and Development (R&D) for Agricultural Engineering

In this research project, four study reports were commissioned by the Centre:

● Agricultural Engineering Restructuring and Development in Developing Asia

This study report contains information on the current status of agricultural research & development (R&D) and its potential for addressing rural poverty in developing Asia. It elaborates on the importance of agricultural research in Asia, and investigates the key linkages

between agricultural research and rural poverty. Issues pertaining to agricultural mechanization, economic transformation and policies, sustainability and systems approach are included. The vital importance of participatory agricultural research and its extension is also discussed. In addition, the study provides the current status of the private sector R&D in selected Asian countries, including China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines and Thailand.

• **Status Report of Agricultural Engineering Restructuring and Development in China**

This report describes the past, present and future of agricultural engineering research and development in China. Many experiences and lessons could be drawn from the agricultural engineering practices during the second half of the 20th century when China transformed from a planned economy to a more market-oriented economy. The report analyzes the impact of national policies on strategy formulation and advancements of agricultural engineering, and assesses the contribution of agricultural engineering to conventional agriculture and rural poverty reduction in the country. The report also makes recommendations and suggestions on identifying key fields and better approaches for agricultural engineering institutions to become more effective in addressing the needs of rural development.

• **Impact of China's Science and Technology System Reform on Rural Development and Poverty Reduction**

The reform of China's science and technology (S&T) system in the mid-1980s was a great initiative of the country's science community. Throughout the twenty years of S&T reform process, China achieved remarkable developments in the advancement of agricultural S&T, including in rural areas. The accumulated experiences and lessons learned are of great means to further the reform,

development, and poverty reduction in rural areas. The report summarizes China's S&T reform including case studies of agro-based small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that play a pivotal role in poverty reduction and rural development in China. The report concludes that agricultural S&T will continue to play a central role in the development of China's rural areas and poverty reduction; Governmental policy is essential in outlining the nation's strategies, objectives and programmes for promoting scientific R&D.

• **The Role of Agricultural Engineering in Economic Development**

The report is based on the above three studies, as well as the findings from the APCAEM International Seminar. The report provides an overview and analysis of R&D for agricultural engineering (AE) in APCAEM member countries. It concludes that AE continues to play a role of prime importance in agricultural and economic development in the developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region. In its one hundred year history, AE has experienced an evolution from traditional agricultural mechanization to agricultural and biological engineering, brought about by the impact of the advancement of science and technology. Farm mechanization still remains an important concern for agricultural productivity in crease in Asia. The study also indicates that agro-technology and systems development should focus more on the adaptability to the local-specific conditions of each country. It also notes that Government policy is the driving force behind R&D for AE.

II. Opportunities with Biofuel in Selected Asian Economies

APCAEM commissioned a study report on *Agricultural Biotechnology-based (Green) Enterprise Development for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods and Economic Growth: Opportunities with Biofuel in Selected Asian Economies* during phase I of the project.

This APCAEM-commissioned paper looks at specific experiences in selected Asian economies in terms of devising an initial framework for developing biofuel enterprises for rural development through enhanced energy production in a sustainable way. It also sets out a conceptual framework to analyze the possible linkages between agricultural biotechnology and biofuel enterprise development and suggests a new institutional structure and policy framework for promoting agricultural biotechnology in selected countries. The paper reviews the worldwide biofuel development trend, then identifies its major barriers in the Asia-Pacific region, and makes the following recommendations. Firstly, at the regional/sub-regional level, efforts need to be strengthened in selecting appropriate energy crops and fostering technological collaboration to ensure the quality of biofuels in line with international standards. Secondly, at the country level, policy and financial support are essential along with economic incentives. Thirdly, the study report calls for more research and development (R&D) inputs and support for biofuel development as well as South-South cooperation in this field.

Member Country Information

Partnership-building field visit to Eastern China



Two senior APCAEM representatives visited Nanjing and Hangzhou from 19-20 June 2007, as part of the Centre's effort to build partnerships with related research institutions and universities in the host country, and to seek opportunities for cooperation.

The APCAEM representatives visited the Nanjing Research Institute for Agricultural Mechanization

(NRIAM), an affiliate of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science (CAAS). They also paid a visit to the Nanjing Agricultural University, a leading institution in the nation specializing in plant genetics. In Hangzhou, the capital of Zhejiang province, they visited a field demonstration site where "jian she xin nong cun" (New Countryside Movement) has earned a significant achievement through the development of agro-based small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). They also paid a visit to the Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering Department of Zhejiang University, for potential collaboration in the future.

International Conference on Agricultural Engineering, Bangkok, Thailand

Asian Association for Agricultural Engineering will host an international conference on Agricultural Engineering from 3-6 December 2007, at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok, Thailand. The Conference will focus on current developments, achievements and practical applications in the field of agricultural engineering.

Country Page of India now available on APCAEM Website



Following the launch of the country pages of Bangladesh and China on the APCAEM Website, the country page of India is now available (http://www.unapcaem.org/cp_India1.htm). The country pages provide rich information and an easy access to agricultural engineering research institutions and universities, machinery manufacturers and dealers, as well as the resource persons in the respective country.

Calendar of Events

Date	Events	Venue	Organizer
9-11 April	GMS Economic Cooperation Program: Agriculture Ministers' Meeting	Beijing, China	ADB
26-28 April	Agri-China 2007	Beijing, China	China Association of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers / German Agricultural Society (DLG) / Hannover Fairs China Ltd / Deutsche Messe AG
27-28 April	International Seminar on Restructuring and Strengthening R&D for Agricultural Engineering	Beijing, China	APCAEM
16-23 May	63rd Commission Session of UNESCAP	Almaty, Kazakhstan	UNESCAP
21 May	Workshop on Regulatory and Strategic Framework for Food Safety	Dalian, China	ADB/WHO
11-13 June	Planning Workshop on Strategies and Options for Integrating Biofuels and Rural Renewable Energy for Poverty Reduction	Bangkok, Thailand	ADB/IFAD/FAO
4-6 July	Biotech China	Shanghai, China	Shanghai Modern International Exhibition Co. Ltd / Shanghai Technology Convention & Exhibition Co., Ltd / Deutsche Messe AG
2-6 September	The 3rd China Jilin Northeast Asia Investment and Trade Expo	Changchun, China	Government of China and Jilin Province
23-26 September	9 th International Fruit/Vegetable/Food Exposition	Yantai, China	Municipal Government of Yantai
10-13 October	Energy Asia 2007	Shanghai, China	Deutsche Messe AG / Hannover Fairs China Ltd / Shanghai World Expo Group
11-12 October	18th Meeting of the Club of Bologna	Moscow, Russian Federation	Club of Bologna
16-19 October	Ethanol & Biofuel Asia 2007	Singapore	Terrapinn, Ltd
17-19 October	International Conference on "Taking Action for the World's Poor and Hungry People"	Beijing, China	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
18-19 October	9 th Meeting of the GTI Consultative Commission and Investment Forum	Vladivostok, Russian Federation	UNDP TRADP Secretariat
18-19 October	The 2nd Global Forum of Leaders for Agricultural Science and Technology	Beijing, China	Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
24-26 October	International Seminar on Enhancing Extension of Conservation Agriculture (CA) Techniques in Asia and the Pacific	Zhengzhou, China	APCAEM / Ministry of Agriculture of China
5-9 November	China Yangling Agricultural Hi-tech Fair	Shaanxi, China	16 Ministries of China and Shaanxi Provincial Government
7-9 November	BioAsia 2007	Bangkok, Thailand	S.L.M. Management Co., Ltd / National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC)
19-23 November	The third sessions of the Technical Committee (TC) and the Governing Council (GC) of APCAEM	TBC	APCAEM
November	Regional Seminar on Policy Framework and Strategies for Promoting Bio-Energy-related (Green) Enterprise Development	TBC	APCAEM
3-6 December	International Conference on Agricultural Engineering	Bangkok, Thailand	Asian Association for Agricultural Engineering
16 - 19 February	AgriExpo 2008 India	Lucknow, India	Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development / Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India / State Government of Uttar Pradesh (India)
April	64th Commission Session of UNESCAP	Bangkok, Thailand	UNESCAP
21-25 April	The 58th Philippine Society of Agricultural Engineers Annual National Convention and the 6th International Agricultural Engineering Conference and Exhibition	Laguna, Philippines	University of the Philippines Los Banos
19-23 May	Twenty-Ninth Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific	Pakistan	FAO
31Aug.- 4 Sept	CIGR International Conference on Agricultural Engineering	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	CIGR



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Engineering and Machinery (APCAEM)

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e-Newsletter

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