

# Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions



**Strengthening Agri-food research and innovations  
for sustainable agricultural development in Asia and the Pacific**

*Ravi Khetarpal, PhD*

Executive Secretary  
Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions  
APAARI, Bangkok, Thailand



# APAARI

**Established in 1990**  
**FAO initiative**

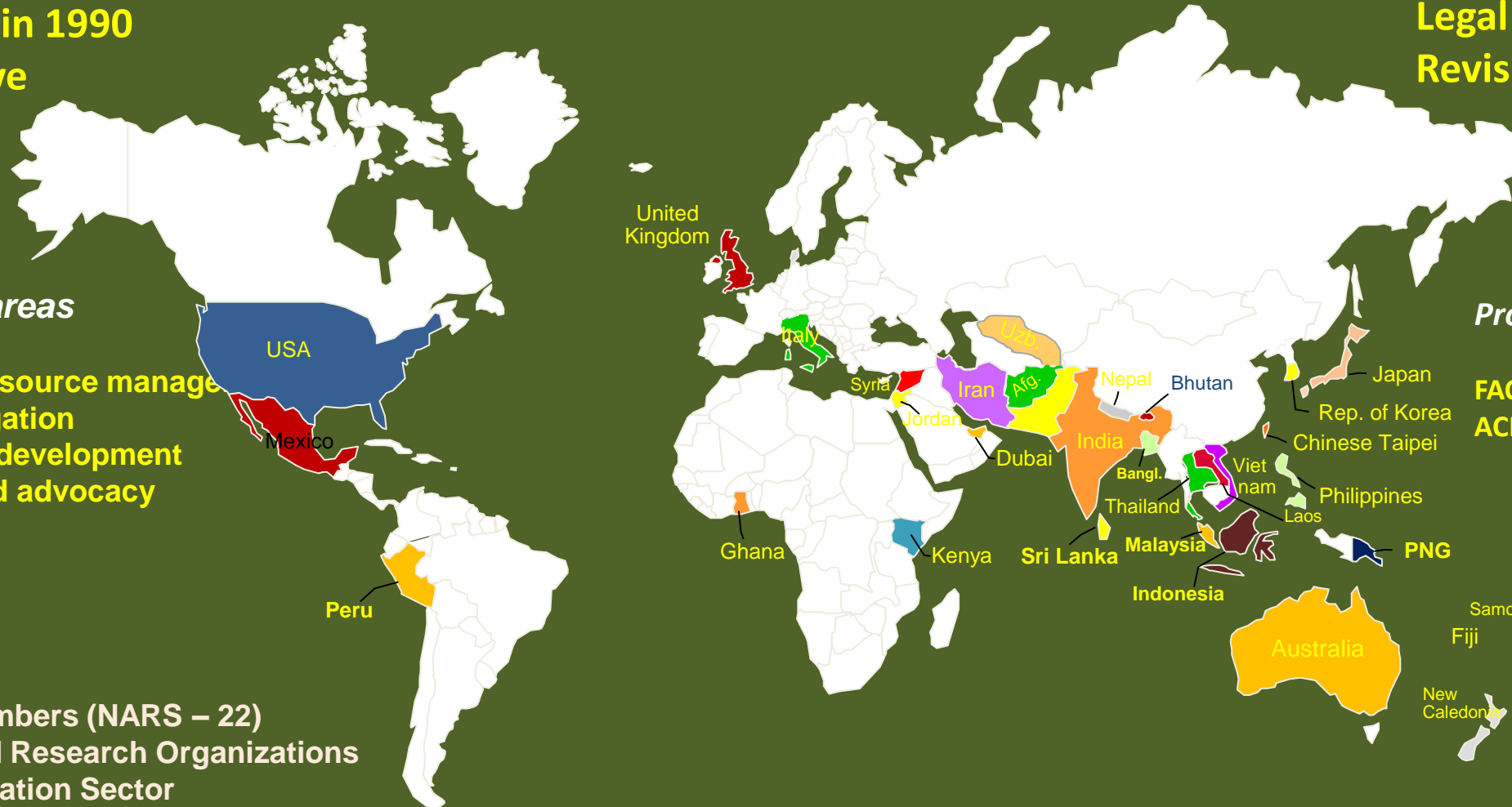
**Legal Status being Revisited**

**Thematic areas**

- **Natural resource management**
- **Risk mitigation**
- **Inclusive development**
- **Policy and advocacy**

**Projects sponsors**

**FAO, STDF / WTO, EU, ACIAR, USDA, COA, CLA,**

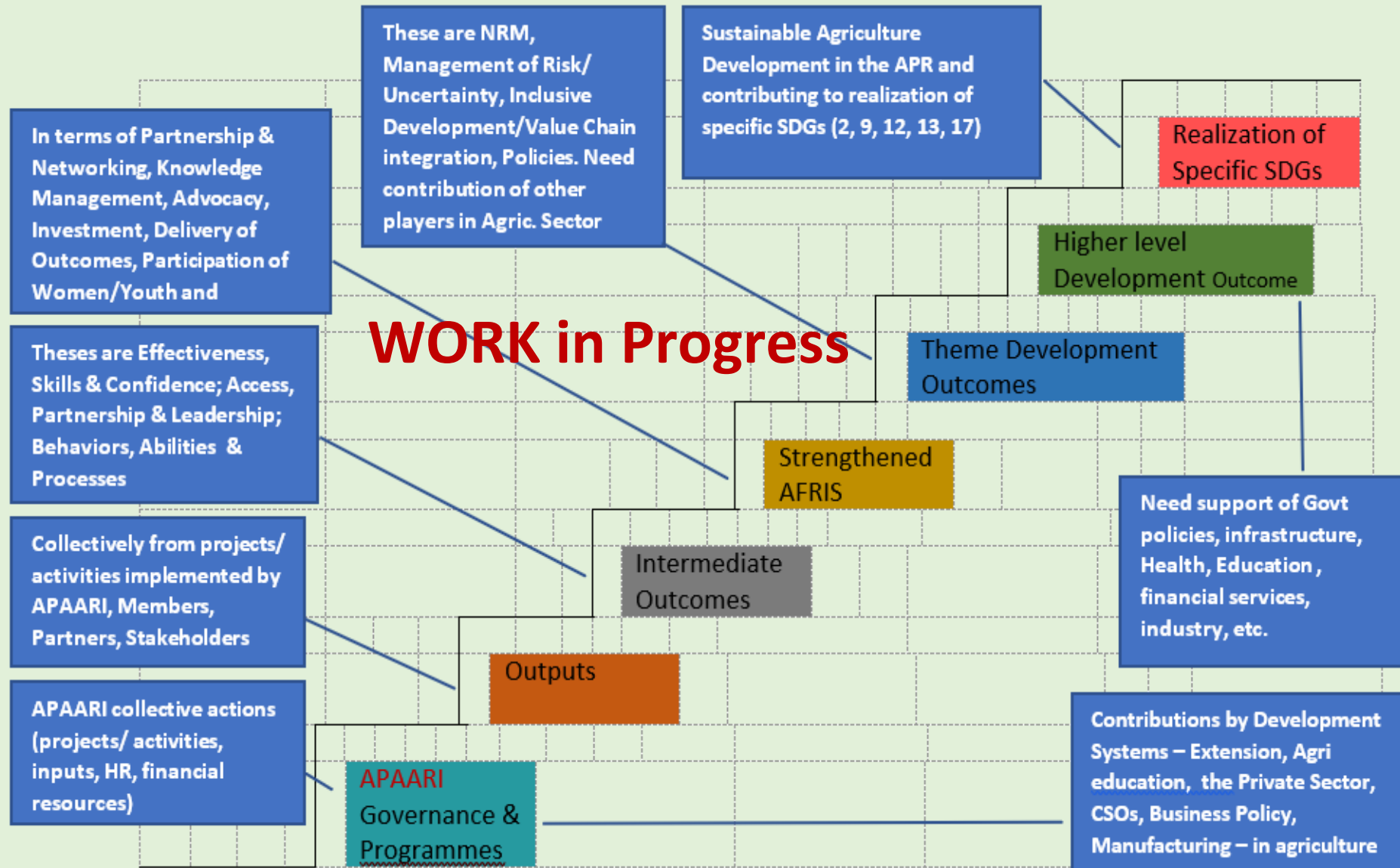


**83 members from 35 countries**

**Members are**

- **Country Members (NARS – 22)**
- **International Research Organizations**
- **Higher Education Sector**
- **Sub Regional Bodies**
- **Associations, Foundations, Trusts**

# Theory of Change in the Context of APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22



# Ongoing Projects



Title & Donor	Beneficiary	Thematic Area*
Revised COA – APAARI Collaborative Project (APCoAB) <b>(COA)</b>	Asia-Pacific	NRM and related KM and PA
Asia pesticide risk mitigation for promotion of biopesticides for facilitation of trade <b>(STDF/WTO)</b> - Rutgers University, USA and USDA as collaborative partners	South and South-East Asia	RM and related KM and PA
Agroecology and Safe food System Transitions (ASSET) in Southeast Asia <b>(CIRAD-EU-AFD)</b>	South-East Asia	KM, RM
Global Plan of Action on Forgotten Foods and Community of Practice as part of the GFAR Collective Action on Forgotten Foods <b>(GFAR)</b>	Asia-Pacific	KM, NRM
Advisory role and Functional capacity building for Africa pesticide risk mitigation project of STDF – ICGEB (STDF/WTO)	Africa	RM, KM

\*Thematic areas: **KM** – Knowledge Management; **NRM** – Natural resource management; **RM** – Risk mitigation; **ID** – Inclusive development; **PA** – Policy and Advocacy

# Ongoing Projects



Title & Donor	Beneficiary	Thematic Area*
COA – APAARI Collaborative Project (APCoAB)	Asia-Pacific	NRM and related KM and PA
Public-private partnership for enhancing global seed supply chain and seed trade of Asia - Pacific post COVID 19 <b>(STDF/WTO)</b>	South and South-East Asia	RM, ID, KM,
Foundation guide on millets on the value of millets for International Year of Millets (IYOM) under Odisha Millets Mission	Asia-Pacific (Focus on India)	ID, NRM, KM
Piloting One Health in Asia-Pacific to Manage Aflatoxins <b>(STDF/WTO)</b>	Asia	NRM, KM

\*Thematic areas: **KM** – Knowledge Management; **NRM** – Natural resource management; **RM** – Risk mitigation; **ID** – Inclusive development; **PA** – Policy and Advocacy

# Projects Submitted



Title & Donor	Beneficiary	Thematic Area*
GFAR Collective Action for Forgotten Foods	Asia-Pacific	NRM, KM
Monitoring agricultural research investments, capacity, and impact in the Pacific ( <b>ICDF</b> )	Pacific	PA
Applying demand-generating innovations to popularize and mainstream millets (DFAT/ACIAR)	Asia-Pacific (Focus on Australia)	ID, NRM, KM

\*Thematic areas: **KM** – Knowledge Management; **NRM** – Natural resource management; **RM** – Risk mitigation; **ID** – Inclusive development; **PA** – Policy and Advocacy

# Projects Completed



Title & Donor	Beneficiary	Thematic Area*
Phytosanitary capacity building in Bangladesh <b>(USAID/USDA)</b> .	Bangladesh	RM, KM, PA
IR4-ASEAN pesticide residue detection under Support for activities for Minor Use Foundation <b>(USDA)</b>	Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia and Thailand	RM
Project on Agriculture Science Technology Indicator <b>(IFPRI-ACIAR)</b> -Bridging Phase	South-East Asia and Pacific	PA and KM
FAO-APAARI LOA - Conduct of a joint rapid appraisal for uptake of TAP approaches and tools by research and extension organizations in the Asia-Pacific region <b>(FAO)</b>	South and South-East Asia	KM
Research to Policy – ACIAR Alumni Research Support Facility	Asia Pacific	PA
Public-private partnership for enhancing global seed supply chain and seed trade of Asia -Pacific post covid19	South and South-East Asia	RM, KM, PA
Gene editing outreach project <b>(FSII-CLA)</b>	Asia-Pacific (India focused)	NRM and related KM
Comparison of seed Laws in key Asia Pacific countries on key provisions of Draft Seed Bill in India <b>(FSII-CLA)</b>	Asia-Pacific	PA

\*Thematic areas: **KM** – Knowledge Management; **NRM** – Natural resource management; **RM** – Risk mitigation; **ID** – Inclusive development; **PA** – Policy and Advocacy

# APAARI-APIRAS Partnership – The Foundation



- [Common Framework for Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation System](#) (CD for AIS) – The principal guide to the TAP approach to strengthen capacity to innovate to contribute towards the SDGs
- EU-funded project “**Developing capacities in agricultural innovation systems: scaling up the TAP Framework**” implemented by FAO and partners
- Regional component (Output 3) to **strengthen capacity in regional research and extension organizations** to integrate TAP tools and approaches to promote innovation processes at the country level; and to facilitate and strengthen collaboration and synergies between research and extension
- 2020 – First **Letter of Agreement (LoA)** between APAARI-APIRAS through FAO/TAP

# First initiative: Joint Rapid Appraisal (2020)



## Structural and functional analysis of AIS landscape through identification of:

- The actors engaged in the agricultural innovation processes and their different roles
- Past and present regional initiatives
- Examples of initiatives in individual countries, which illustrate novel approaches and useful lessons in partnerships and capacity development
- **Key outputs:** Sub-regional reports (South and Southeast Asia) with identified entry points – the need to strengthen capacity for innovation, partnership for innovation, and partnership for innovation
- 2021-2022 work of APAARI-APIRAS partnership based on the JRA findings

# Second initiative: LoA 2021-2022 Engagement



- Formation and facilitation of **thematic regional stakeholder working groups (WGs)** – Agri-biotechnology and agroecology
- **Joint call on good practices in:** (a) Partnerships for innovation; (b) Innovations in capacity development focusing on functional capacities; and (c) Policy changes that facilitate innovation – **Key Outputs:** Six Good Practice Notes
- Training of Trainers (TOT) on **Strengthening Agricultural Innovation Systems in Asia-Pacific – TAP Approaches and Tools** (19-20 Oct 2022), participation from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam – A model for future ToTs
- Webinars – Results of an **online survey on ‘Strengthening AIS in Asia-Pacific: Research-Extension Interface’** to identify gaps in functional capacities in the region; and **Women in research and extension: Advancing gender quality in innovation’**

# Third phase: Continuation of engagement (2023)



- Formation and continuation of **regional thematic WGs** – Agroecology and Higher Education
- Continuation of **Good Practice Notes**: models on reforms, models, financing, policy, digitalization, inst. capacity development in broader context, of CSA and agroecology
- Developing **capacities for policy engagement** – ToT
- **Harvesting success stories** – good models of NARS that are market- and demand -driven, participatory and climate-smart e.g. Japan, South Korea

# APIRAS– APAARI

## Exploring Partnerships



- Areas of collaboration
- Co-learning and Co-innovation

### ***Formalizing the partnership***

Joint scoping of global and regional projects

