

Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia (CSISA), A BMGF Funded Project

The CSISA project has been initiated at CSSRI, Karnal with the collaboration of IRRI and CIMMYT. This project will provide overall strategy and a new umbrella for contributing new science and technologies to accelerating short and long-term growth in cereal production in South Asia. Out of total eight objectives in this project, CSSRI is collaborating in objectives 1 & 2, as mentioned below.

1. Widespread delivery and adaptation of production and post harvest technologies to increase cereal production and raise incomes

This objective under the CSISA project initially focuses on 9 hubs (comprising 70 districts located in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Nepal) that represent intensive cereal production systems in South Asia. The hubs will play a pivotal role in geographically differentiated delivery of technologies for rapid adoption of improved seed and crop management practices, understanding critical components of public-private partnerships and developing business plans to stimulate private-sector investments. Each hub will be supported by a Technical Working Group (TWG) drawn from public-private partnerships.

Dr. Gurbachan Singh, Director, CSSRI has been appointed Chairman of Technical Working Group for Haryana State Hub under this project for delivery and adaptive research. Dr. M.L. Jat, will be the Member Secretary for the TWG.

**Regional Delivery Coordinator
(CIMMYT-Bangladesh & India)**

Dr. Raj K. Gupta

Chairman, Technical Working Group

Dr. Gurbachan Singh

Hub Manager, Haryana

Dr. M.L. Jat

Extension Agronomist

Mr. Vijay

2. Crop and resource management practices for sustainable future cereal-based systems

Under this objective, the research will be conducted on four platforms (Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal; ICAR-Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna; Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute, Aduthurai, Bangladesh Agricultural

Research Institute, Gazipur) in Indo-Gangetic plains. In all the platforms, the experiments will be conducted on following five scenarios:

- ❖ Business as usual or the current farmers' practice
- ❖ Current cropping and farming system patterns with intensification of input use
- ❖ Diversification into new cropping and livestock opportunities
- ❖ Systems designed to deal with water scarcity
- ❖ Systems designed to deal with labor scarcity

IRRI Co-ordinator
Platform Coordinator at CSSRI Karnal
CSSRI Partners

Dr. J.K. Ladha
Dr. Mahesh Gathala
Dr. Gurbachan Singh
Dr. P.C. Sharma
Dr. N.P.S. Yaduvanshi

The researches to be conducted on the above mentioned four platforms will assess the performance of innovative, intensive and sustainable cereal production system for the future and will form the basis for enhancing cereal production in south Asia.