



CICTAB ***NEWSLETTER***

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About CICTAB

At the instance of FAO, Centre for International Cooperation & Training in Agricultural Banking(CICTAB) was set up by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India as an autonomous institution with its head quarters at Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune in January, 1983.

CICTAB through its member institutions promotes :

Scope & Functions

1. International cooperation in the establishment and expansion of facilities for training in agricultural banking.
2. Facilitates exchange of experience and information on harnessing of National systems of finance and banking for agricultural and rural development.
3. Prominent activity focus of CICTAB is on programmes and practices relating to rural development with special reference to rural poor in developing countries of the SAARC region.

Management of CICTAB

Management of CICTAB is vested with General Council and Managing Committee consisting of representatives from member institutions in member countries.

**Shri Ashish Kumar Bhutani, IAS, Secretary,
Ministry of Cooperation, Government
of India & President, General Council, CICTAB**



**Shri Pankaj Kumar Bansal ,IAS, Additional Secretary,
Ministry of Cooperation, Government of
India & Chairman, Managing Committee, CICTAB**



Centre for International Cooperation & Training in Agricultural Banking
(Promoted by Government of India and Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations)

**Vaikunth Mehta National Institute Of Co-operative Management Campus
Near Pune University , Pune - 411007, Maharashtra, India**

Activities of CICTAB : Training Programmes

- **International Programme on “Renewable Energy Management for Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions” (CICTAB-MoC-VAMNICOM)**
- **22 - 25 July 2025 at VAMNICOM, Pune**

International Programme on “Renewable Energy Management for Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions” was organized at VAMNICOM, Pune. It was four days programme from 22 - 25 July 2025 having three classroom sessions and study visits.

Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Programme Director, CICTAB inaugurated the programme in presence CICTAB team. Dr. D. Ravi shared the idea behind the conduct of Renewable Energy Management for Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions programme. He explained in brief about the planning of four days training programme.

A total of 37 participants were attended the programme from- Indian Member Institution- NCUI (16), NFSCF (2); Sri Lanka - SANASA Federation (12) and Nepal -NCBL (7).

The objectives of the programme were: to create awareness of Renewable energy sources and energy saving methods, to create awareness about the programmes of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Govt. of India on improved cook stoves (IC), and bio-gas, to promote alternative energy devices like biogas, solar devices (solar lanterns and solar street lighting)

Three field visits were arranged for participants to (1) Bipsun Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Varve, Pune (2) Katraj Dairy, Katraj, Pune (3) Visit to KVK Baramati for Technology Assessment and Demonstration for its Application and Capacity Development.

Valedictory Session was graced by Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB. He delivered his sincere thanks to the director, participants, their sponsoring organizations and CICTAB secretariat. He distributed the certificates to participants.



Group photo of the programme



Study visit to Bipsun Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Varve, Pune

Feedback:

It was great experience to learn about the renewable energy management. Programme provides opportunity to understand the various waste generation sources and their management and to know the various waste to energy conversion technologies.

Mr. U. G. Chandana Thilaka, Director of SANASA Union, SANASA Sri Lanka

• International Programme on “Digitalization and Financial Inclusion (For CEOs and Senior Executives)” (CICTAB-RBI-CAB)

• 5 – 8 August, 2025 at College of Agricultural Banking (CAB), Pune

International Programme on Digitalization and Financial Inclusion” (For CEOs and Senior Executives) was organized at at CAB, Pune. It was four days programme from 5-8 August, 2025 having classroom sessions and study visits.

Shri Jaikish, Chief General Manager & Principal, CAB inaugurated the programme in the presence of in the presence of the presence of the Programme Director Shri Murlee Krishna M, General Manager, CAB. Shri Jaikish, Chief General Manager & Principal, CAB briefed the participants about the role of Reserve Bank of India in the digitalization. Shri Murlee Krishna M, General Manager, CAB explained in brief about the planning of four days training programme.

A total 20 participants from Nepal Member Institution(14) NCBL (6), NRB (7), NEFSCUN (2); from Indian Member Institutions NAFCARD (1), NCUI (4) were participated in the programme.

The objectives of the programme were: to familiarize the participants with the use of technology in promoting financial inclusion in India and to sensitize the participants about the risks in digital transactions and mitigation thereof.

Visit was organised to BAIF Development Research Foundation, Urulikanchan, Pune to know the practical experience about the Financial Inclusion through Group Lending - SHG and JLG Model and implementation of the Govt Schemes for SHG/ JLG.

Valediction of the programme was graced by Shri Jaikish, Chief General Manager & Principal, CAB in the presence of the presence of the Programme Director Shri Murlee Krishna M, General Manager, CAB.



Study visit to BAIF Development Research Foundation, Urulikanchan, Pune

Feedback:

Such programmes play a vital role in advancing digitalization and fostering financial inclusion. Enhanced access to finance significantly contributes to economic development, promotes social mobility, and ensures broader participation of people in economic life.

Mr. Shiva Regmi, Deputy Director, Financial Inclusion and Consumer Protection Division,
Nepal Rashtra Bank (NRB), Nepal

- **International Programme on “Women Empowerment through Income Generating Activities”.**

(CICTAB-NIBM)

- **18-21 August, 2025 at National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM), Pune**

International Programme on Women Empowerment through Income Generating Activities" was organized at National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM), Pune. It was four days programme from 18-21 August, 2025 having classroom sessions and study visits.

Dr. Naveen Kumar K & Prof Sanjay Kanchi, Programme Directors for this programme jointly inaugurated the programme in the presence of NIBM team. Dr. Naveen Kumar K briefed the participants about the role of National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM) in banking sector and further he explained about the planning of four days training programme.

A total 18 participants from Nepal Member Institution NCBL (4), NRB (6), NEFSCUN (1); from Indian Member Institutions NABARD (1), NCUI (4) and IFFCO (2) were participated in the programme.

The objectives of the programme were: to sensitize the participants to the concept of SHGs & JLGs as a supplementary credit delivery system/Financial inclusion off rural poor and to equip the participants to develop knowledge on income generating activities for women development.

Visit was organised to Krishi Vigyan Kendra Baramati to know the practical experience about the Women Empowerment through Income Generating Activities. Women in Baramati District formed SHGs and the were doing small business like processed products from millets.

Valediction of the programme was graced by Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB in the presence of Dr. Naveen Kumar K & Prof Sanjay Kanchi, Programme Directors and NIBM team.



Study visit to Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Baramati

Feedback:

I got knowledge and practical skills to design, implement, and sustain income-generating activities that promote women’s empowerment, enhance financial independence, and support inclusive community development.”

Mrs. Lalita Chaware, Assistant Manager, Indian Farm Forestry Development Coop. Ltd., IFFCO, New Delhi

- **International Programme on “Innovation and Application of Financial Technology in Rural Financial Institutions”.**

(CICTAB-MoC-VAMNICOM)

- **8 - 11 September, 2025 at VAMNICOM, Pune**

International Programme on “Innovation and Application of Financial Technology in Rural Financial Institutions” was conducted at VAMNICOM, Pune. It was four days programme from 8 - 11 September, 2025 having classroom sessions and study visits.

Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, VAMNICOM & CICTAB inaugurated the above mentioned programme in the presence of Dr. D. Ravi, Programme & CICTAB team.

A total 35 participants attended the programme from NCC, Sri Lanka (11); NEFSCUN, Nepal (3); NCBL Nepal (9); NRB Nepal (5); NABARD, India (1); IFFCO, India (1); NCUI India (3); Mauritius (1); Zambia (1).

The objectives of the programme were: to discuss the role of Financial Technology for improving the business performance of cooperative and rural financing institutions; to create awareness about Financial Technology need and its implementation in co-operative and Rural Financing Institutions; to brief the latest developments on Financial Technology.

Visit was organised to Krishi Vigyan Kendra Baramati to know the practical experience for Centre of Excellence of Artificial Intelligence, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Baramati; PDCC Bank, Pune and Cosmos Bank, Pune.

Certificate distribution ceremony was held by Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB & Jt. Programme Director, VAMNICOM. He delivered his sincere thanks to the director, participants, their sponsoring organizations and CICTAB secretariat.



Study Visit to Cosmos Bank, Pune



Study Visit to PDCC Bank, Pune

Feedback:

Understood the special challenges of Application of Financial Technology in Rural Financial Institutions that are traditionally associated with rural and agricultural credit directed to the poor.

Mr. Liyanaarachchi Abeywardanalage Abeysinghe, National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka

• International Programme on “Digitalisation in Rural Banks and Cooperatives”.

(CICTAB-NIBM)

• 22-25 September, 2025 at NIBM, Pune

International Programme on "Digitalization in Rural Banks and Cooperatives" was conducted at NIBM, Pune. It was four days programme from 22-25 September, 2025 having classroom sessions and study visits.

The program was inaugurated by Dr. Naveen Kumar, Programme Director, welcomed the participants and discussed NIBM's training initiatives for banks and financial institutions, including cooperative banks. He highlighted various CICTAB activities and emphasized the need for trainer training in banks and financial institutions.

A total total 29 participants participated in this program from India (2) Sri Lanka (20) and Nepal (07).

The objectives of the programme were: to discuss the role of Financial Technology for improving the business performance of cooperative and rural financing institutions; to create awareness about Financial Technology need and its implementation in co-operative and Rural Financing Institutions; to brief the latest developments on Financial Technology.

Visit was organised to Krishi Vigyan Kendra Baramati to know the practical experience for Centre of Excellence of Artificial Intelligence, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Baramati; PDCC Bank, Pune and Cosmos Bank, Pune.

The program was concluded with participant's feedback on the program and distribution of certificates to the participants. Valedictory session was offered by, Shri. D Ravi, Coordinator, CICTAB.



Group photo of the programme



Study Visit to Cosmos Bank, Pune

Feedback:

This program addressed the immediate challenges faced by these financial institutions but also promotes long-term sustainability and growth. By fostering collaboration between banks, cooperatives, and technology partners, the initiative is driving financial inclusion and empowering rural communities.

Dr. Aryashree Debapriya, Associate Professor, National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayatiraj, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES SCHEDULED IN OCTOBER- DECEMBER 2025

- International Programme on Development of Managerial Skills for Agricultural Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions
• 13 – 16 October, 2025 at LINAC Institute, Gurgram, Haryana, India
- Establishing and Strengthening Agricultural Producer Cooperatives
• 3-6 November 2025 at NICD Campus, Polgolla, Sri Lanka
- Role of Cooperative Institutions in achieving Financial Inclusion
• 10 to 14 November 2025 at NIRD & PR, Hyderabad
- International Exposure visit Programme in SHG, JLG and Farmers Collectives (For CEOs & Senior Executives)
• 11 - 14 Nov, 2025 at CAB, Pune, Maharashtra, India
- Fishery Development through Cooperative Business Model
• 17 - 21 Nov, 2025 at LINAC Institute, Gurgram, Haryana, India
- Integrating Cooperative Institutions for Sustainable Rural Development.
• 8 to 12 December, 2025 at NIRD & PR, Hyderabad
- Business Development Plan for Primary Agriculture Cooperative Society (PACS)
• 9 – 12 Dec, 2025 at VAMNICOM, Pune
- International Programme on Efficient Dairy Business Management and Operations
• 1-4 December, 2025 at LINAC Institute, Gurgram, Haryana, India

Academic Team

Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, CICTAB & VAMNICOM
Dr D Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB & Faculty, VAMNICOM
Ms Smita Kadam, Research Officer, CICTAB



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You can also follow us on LinkedIn : [@CICTAB,Pune](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cictab)