



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 :

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.

Scope & Functions

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

- **Development of Managerial Skills for Agricultural Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions (CICTAB-NCDC-LINAC)**
- **13 – 16 October, 2025 at LINAC Institute, Gurgram, Haryana, India**

International Programme on Developing Managerial Skills for Agricultural Co-operatives and Rural Financing Institutions was organised under the sponsorship of National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) and with active collaboration of the Laxmanrao Inamdar National Academy for Cooperative Research and Development (LINACRD), of NCDC, Gurgaon (Haryana) from 13 – 16 October, 2025 at National Co-operative Development Corporation, LINACRD, Gurgram (Haryana). Total 10 participants from Nepal participated in the programme

The programme was inaugurated by Dr Manoj Kumar, Director General, LINAC. The training sessions were handled by eminent speakers from LINAC and shared valuable insights into the role Managerial Skills for Agricultural Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions.

The objectives of the programme were: to enable the participants to recognize their roles and responsibilities in the development of Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies and learn the process for providing guidance and consultancy and to apprise the participants with the various kinds of problems and deficiencies of Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies and facilitate to acquire knowledge, skills and attitude for improving management of operational services in PACS.

As a part of study visit the participants visited to (1) Ujoli Primery Cooperative Society, Alwqar, Rajasthan and DCC, Gurugram.

The valedictory session was attended by Dr D Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB and distributed the certificates.



Group photo of the programme



Study visit to Gurgoan Central Cooperative Bank

Feedback:

Enhanced managerial, financial, governance, and strategic skills to effectively lead agricultural cooperatives and rural financing institutions in a sustainable and member-centric manner.

Mr. Gokul Pathak, General Manager, Hamrochisapani Krishi Sahakari Sastha Ltd, Nepal

- **Establishing and Strengthening Agricultural Producer Cooperatives (CICTAB-NICD-VAMNICOM)**
- **3-6 November 2025 conducted at NICD Campus, Polgolla, Sri Lanka**

International Programme on “Establishing and Strengthening Agricultural Producer Cooperatives” in collaboration with National Institute of Cooperative Development (NICD) in Sri Lanka at NICD Campus, Polgolla, Sri Lanka is scheduled from 3 - 5 November, 2025.

Total 27 participants attended the programme from Bangladesh (2), India (5), Nepal (2), Sri Lanka (18)

Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, CICTAB & VAMNICOM, inaugurated the CICTAB International Programme on “Establishing and Strengthening of Agricultural Producer Co-operatives”, held from 3rd to 6th November 2025 in collaboration with NICD, Sri Lanka, and VAMNICOM, Pune, at NICD, Sri Lanka. Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB, delivered the remarks on behalf of CICTAB.

The objectives of the programme were: to develop knowledge and skills for establishing, managing, and governing agricultural producer cooperatives effectively; to strengthen capacities in business planning, financial management, and collective marketing for enhancing members’ income and sustainability; to promote adoption of modern technologies, value addition, and market linkages for improving competitiveness of cooperatives; to foster collaboration with government agencies, financial institutions, and other stakeholders for long-term cooperative growth.

Experiencing Co-operation in action. Field Visit was organised to Coconut Producer Cooperative and Collective Cooperative Farm.

The valedictory session was attended by Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, CICTAB & VAMNICOM and Dr D Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB and distributed the certificates.



Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, CICTAB & VAMNICOM, inaugurated the CICTAB International Programme on “Establishing and Strengthening of Agricultural Producer Co-operatives”, held from 3rd to 6th November 2025 in collaboration with NICD, Sri Lanka, and VAMNICOM, Pune, at NICD, Sri Lanka. Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB, delivered the remarks on behalf of CICTAB.

Feedback:

It is very successful programme to know how to establish, govern, and sustainably strengthen Agricultural Producer Cooperatives and market linkages to enhance farmers’ income and organizational resilience.

Mr. Remy Stephen Costa, Executive Officer (Accounts & Finance), Tumilia Christian Co-operative Credit Union Ltd., CCULB, Bangladesh

International Programme on “Role of Cooperative Institutions in achieving Financial Inclusion” (CICTAB-NIRD&PR)

10 to 14 November 2025 at NIRD & PR, Hyderabad, India

International training programme on “Integrating Cooperative Institutions for Sustainable Rural Development” during 10 to 14 November 2025 organised at National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayatiraj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad in collaboration with National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayatiraj (NIRDPR)

19 participants attended the programme from Nepal (04), Egypt (01) Eswatini (01) , Gambia (01),Zambia (01), Mauritius (01) and India (10).

The programme was inaugurated by Dr G Narendra Kumar, IAS, Director General, NIRDPR.

The objectives of the programme were to understand various dimensions and financial inclusion; to discuss the formal financial institutions and their current status and role towards financial inclusion; to appraise the role and potential of cooperative institutions towards achieving financial inclusion; to understand various pathways towards strengthening cooperative institutions and their role in achieving financial inclusion; to discuss the role of financial literacy, fintech solutions, training and capacity development for accelerating financial inclusion; to appraise the various Govt. of policies, schemes and good practices towards integrating cooperative institutions in rural financial system;

As a part of study visit the participants visited to 1. Streenidhi Cooperative Credit Society the apex cooperative bank of SERP Model in Telangana affiliating 63,000 SHG Groups and 2. Mulknor Credit Cooperative Society and Cooperative Dairy

The valedictory session was attended by Dr D Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB who distributed the certificates.



Group photo of the programme

Feedback:

Study visit arranged to Mulknor All Women Cooperative Dairy. We got to know that Mulkanoor women started exploring ways of investment which would benefit a large section of poor rural women.

Mr. Sulayman Krubally, Lecturer, Department of Community Development, Ministry of Lands, Regional Government and Religious Affairs, Gambia

• International Exposure visit Programme in SHG, JLG and Farmers Collectives (For CEOs & Senior Executives)” (CICTAB-RBI-CAB)

11 – 14 Nov, 2025 at CAB, Pune, Maharashtra, India

International Exposure visit Programme in SHG, JLG and Farmers Collectives (For CEOs & Senior Executives) during 11 – 14 Nov, 2025 at CAB, Pune, Maharashtra, India in collaboration with Reserve Bank of India and College of Agricultural Banking, Pune.

The programme was inaugurated by Shri Jaikish, Chief General Manager & Principal, CAB, Pune, Channel Coordinator and Programme Director.

The programme was attended by 21 officials from Nepal (16) and India (5).

The objectives of the programme were to sensitise the participants to the concept of SHGs/JLGs as a supplementary credit delivery system and financial inclusion of vulnerable sections., to familiarise with the developments on promotion and financing of SHGs/ JLGs in India – Initiatives of NABARD/RBI and the Government of India, to provide a platform for cross-sharing of experience in lending to SHGs and farmer collectives across the SAARC Countries and to provide the participants an exposure to the successful SHGs / JLGs - Understanding the concept of group dynamics, achievements of groups, best practices and operations of successful SHGs/ JLGs /NGOs /Banks.

As part of the programme, to provide an exposure to the participants regarding the functioning, issues and challenges etc. of a SHG/JLG, participants along with the Programme Director and Programme Assistant from CAB Pune visited the “BAIF Community Health Research Centre (CHRC) and interaction with the SHG group members of SANKALP.

Valedictory session was attended by Ms. Smita Kadam, Research Officer, CICTAB in the presence of Shri Nagarjun Gowrishankar, AGM & MoF, Programme Director CAB.



Programme Valediction and Certificate distribution

Feedback:

Digitalisation model of India is different and much advanced than the Nepal. We got knowledge of new techniques about the digitalisation and microfinance. As employee of Nepal Rashtra Bank we will try to implement it.

Mr. Maddumage Don Pushpakumara Malinda, Senior Sales Manager, SANASA Federation, Sri Lanka

• International Programme on “Fishery Development through Cooperative Business Model” (CICTAB-NCDC-LINAC)

17 - 21 Nov, 2025 at LINAC Institute, Gurgram, Haryana, India

The International Programme on “Fishery Development through Cooperative Business Model” conducted at LINAC Institute, Gurgram, Haryana, India from 17 - 21 Nov, 2025. Programme was conducted in collaboration with National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi & Laxmanrao Inamdar National Academy for Cooperative Research and Development (LINAC), Gurugram.

Smt. Megha Joshi, Assistant Director, LINAC inaugurated the programme in the presence of Programme Director and the LINAC team.

A total of 13 participants from Nepal (5), Zambia (1), Egypt (4), Ghana (1), Namibia (1), Eswatini (1) participated in the programme.

The broad objectives of the programme were to Explain concept of blue economy and cooperatives, business dimensions; Delineate Concept of FFPOs under PMMSY and its provisions; List out ideal practices for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of fisheries cooperative projects

One day study study visit to PVR Aqua Fish Farm, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh was organized for the participants on the second day of the training program. During the visit, participants were able to practically watch and learn about various aspects of fish farming being done in Northern India.

Valedictory session of the programme was greased by Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB in the presence of LINAC team.



Classroom session and study visit to PVR Aqua Fish Farm, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh was organized for the study the practical approach to watch and learn about various aspects of fish farming being done in Northern India.

Feedback:

Enriched about design, manage, and strengthen fishery cooperatives by applying cooperative business models, value chain approaches, and sustainable practices to enhance productivity, incomes, and livelihoods of fishers.

Mr. Mohamed Saleh Mohamed Ismail, Aquaculture Engineer, Head of Department of Fish Classification And Statistics and Aquaculture, Egyptian cabinet - lakes and fish resources protection and development agency, Egypt

- **International Programme on International training programme on Integrating Cooperative Institutions for Sustainable Rural Development (CICTAB-NIRD & PR)**

- **18-12 December 2025 at NIRD & PR, Hyderabad, India**

International Programme on International training programme on “Integrating Cooperative Institutions for Sustainable Rural Development” was organised during 8-12 December 2025 at National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayatiraj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad in collaboration with National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayatiraj (NIRDPR)

Total 21 participants attended the programme from Nepal (13), Eswatini (01), Mauritius (01) and India (6).

The programme was inaugurated by Dr G Narendra Kumar, IAS, Director General, NIRDPR.

The objectives of the programme were to understand various dimensions and emerging challenges relating to sustainable rural development; to assess the role and potential of cooperative institutions towards advancing sustainable rural development; to understand various pathways towards strengthening cooperative institutions and mainstreaming their role in inclusive and sustainable rural development; to discuss the strategies for convergence of cooperatives in the rural development programmes; to appraise the various Govt. of policies, schemes and good practices towards strengthening cooperative institutions.

As a part of study visit the participants visited to Mulknor Cooperative Credit Society and Mulknor All Women Cooperative Dairy.

The valedictory session was presided by Prof. Jyothis Sathyapalan, P&H, CPGS&DE, NIRDPR in the presence of Dr A Debapriya Programme Director & Dr Partha Pratim Sahu, Associate Professor of NIRDPR.



Group photo of the programme

Feedback:

Gain an ability to integrate cooperative institutions effectively to promote sustainable, inclusive, and resilient rural development.

Mr. Bongani Wonder Maziya, Deputy Commissioner for Cooperative Development, Department Of Cooperative Development, Ministry Of Commerce, Industry & Trade, Eswatini

• International Programme on “Business Development Plan for Primary Agriculture Cooperative Society (PACS)” (CICTAB-MoC-VAMNICOM)

9th - 12th December, 2025 at VAMNICOM, Pune

The International Programme on “Business Development Plan for Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society” conducted at VAMNICOM, Pune from 9th - 12th December, 2025. Programme was conducted in collaboration with Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India, NAFSCOB & Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune. The programme was conducted in physical mode in VAMNICOM, Pune.

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

Total 14 participants attended the programme from Nepal (4), India (10)

The broad objectives of the programme were to provide administration skills, human resources and technological innovations in cooperatives; Preparation of the business plans both farm & non-farm credit requirements; to identify potentials in agriculture and rural financing sector by enabling the farmer to be part of a business plan in which everything can be tapped into the growing market including capacity building and technology transfer; to sensitize the participants that transition of PACS can act as a single window for credit as well as services with the help of sustainable business development plans,

Study visits were arranged at Annapurna Pariwar, Pune (Microfinance Institution) & Mandavgan Pharata Vividh Karyakari Society, Mandavgan Pharata, Tal-Shirur, Dist-Pune.

Valedictory session of the programme was greased by Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, CICTAB & VAMNICOM



Group photo of the programme

Feedback:

Cooperative Business Models in Maharashtra are very profitable. We visited one of the successful model at Mandavgan Pharata Vividh Karyakari Society, Mandavgan Pharata and got the information about different types of successful models like fishery, dairy, credit etc in experience sharing sessions

CA. Sushila Khanal, Senior Officer, Sana Kisan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. (SKBBL),
Nepal

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES SCHEDULED IN JANUARY- MARCH 2026

- **Training Techniques for Trainers of Cooperative and Rural Financing Institutions (Focused on Trainers Training)**
• 5 – 9 Jan, 2026 at NCUI, New Delhi, India & VAMNICOM
- **Dairy Development through Cooperative Business Model**
• 15th – 17th January, 2026 at NDDB, Anand
- **Agri Export Procedure and Documentation for Cooperatives**
• 28 - 31 Jan, 2026 at VAMNICOM, pune, India
- **Agriculture & Rural Development through Cooperative Business Model**
• 19-22 January 2026 at FMDI, Gurgoan, India
- **Exposure visit Programme on Cooperative Business Model**
• 3-6 February 2026 at VAMNICOM, pune, India
- **Skill Development of Trainers in the area of Promotion and Financing of Self-Help Groups & Joint Liability Groups for Financial Inclusion of Rural Poor (Focused on Trainers Training)**
• 9-13 February 2026 at BIRD Lucknow
- **“Management Strategies to develop Cooperatives (for CEO and General Managers of Cooperative Societies and Federations)**
• 16 – 19 February 2026 at NCC Sri Lanka
- **Programme on Dairy Development through Cooperative Business Model**
• 18th to 20th February, at NDDB, Anand
- **Special Refinance Facility from NABARD - Transformation of Primary Agriculture Cooperative Society (PACS) as Multi-Service Centre (MSC)**
• 23-25 February 2026 at BIRD Lucknow
- **Cooperative Governance for the CEOs and Senior Executives of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions**
• 24-27 March, 2026 at Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu, India
- **Efficient Dairy Business Management and Operations**
• 9th to 12th March, 2026 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



Centre for International Cooperation & Training in Agricultural Banking

**(Promoted by Government of India and Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations),
University Road, Near Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune - 411007, Maharashtra, India**

WEBSITE : www.cictab.ac.in

**Please send your feedback/suggestions to :
Ms Smita Kadam, Research Officer, CICTAB; e-mail id : kadam1786@gmail.com**

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