

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON AGROFORESTRY RESEARCH (3-5 APRIL, 1989)

A National Workshop on Agro-forestry Research was held with the assistance of USAID-MART Project and Government of Pakistan at Punjab Forestry Research Institute, Faisalabad, on 3-5 April, 1989. The objectives were to highlight research needs and priorities in the field of agro-forestry, assessing on-going agro-forestry / farming systems research, identify research gaps and resources in terms of equipment and expertise, and streamline mechanisms for collaboration.

There was a warm response and 49 delegates participated in the Workshop; they represented the Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Cooperatives, Provincial and Azad Jammu and Kashmir Forest Departments, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Nuclear Institute for Agriculture and Biology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and the Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar.

In the inaugural session, Mr. M. Hafeez, Director, Punjab Forestry Research Institute welcomed the Chief Guest, Dr. Abdur Rehman, Vice Chancellor, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Dr. A.L. Merkel, USAID Representative and the delegates and explained the aims and objectives of the workshop. Dr. A.L. Merkel, in his address, stressed the need of the workshop and appreciated the response given to it by the scientists.

During the three paper-reading sessions on 1) establishing common terminology 2) inventory of on-going agro-forestry and farming systems research in Pakistan and 3) assessment of agro-forestry farming system research needs a number of papers were presented on agroforestry, farming system research and research priorities including one on *Leucaena* sp. forage production system used for field dairy cattle at Bharatiya Agro-Industries Foundation, Pune, India.

Session four was spent on two separate group discussions on topics, viz (i) identification of research gaps, assessment of resources to meet research needs, resources and mechanisms and (ii) identification of areas of collaborative research and its mechanism.

The final sessions were devoted to all-group discussions on presentation of recommendations on agro-forestry research and identification of research needs and priorities. Theme of the concluding session of the workshop, chaired by Mr. Abeerullah Jan, Inspector General of Forests, was establishing National Research Agenda: matching the research needs, resources and funding. Dr. K.M. Siddiqui, Director General, Pakistan Forest Institute presented the recommendations of the workshop on agro-forestry. Dr. H. Dickherber, Chief Division, USAID, highly appreciated the conduct of meeting and hoped that the recommendations would be implemented for raising the socio-economic status of the farmers.

In his vote of thanks, Mr. S.K. Khanzada, praised the efforts of the Organizers for focussing the attention of the forestry community on an urgent issue of national importance, appreciating the sponsors for their support, and the delegates for their contributions.

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