

Agricultural University Networks with Queen's university on Food Security, Biodiversity and Climate Change

A three day Networking workshop on “Balancing Climate, Bio-diversity & Food security – Towards a Global Alliance” is being conducted at Coimbatore by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in association with Queen's university, England & Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) is conducted from March 18-20, 2019.

The Vice chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Dr. N. Kumar inaugurated the Workshop on 18.03.2019. In his presidential address, the Vice chancellor stressed that food and nutritional security, impacts on biodiversity and climate are crucial interlinked platforms that need a strong network between countries and Institutions. While expressing satisfaction over achievements in food grain production and increasing nutritional security by way of increased horticultural production, the Vice chancellor insisted that the other two areas need more attention. He added that Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has initiated studies on the physiological changes occurring in crop plants due to increase of temperature up to 4-5°C. He recalled that technologies evolved by the Environmental Sciences Department of the University helped combat straw burning issues in Punjab and Haryana.

Professor K.Ramasamy, former Vice chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and eminent environmental scientist, in his felicitation address, highlighted the transformation of India's ancient pollution management wisdom into novel technologies. He added that with 40-75 liters of wastewater generated for every kilogram of industrial products, nano-filtration remains a viable technology for reuse of such waters.

Dr. K. Subramanian, Director of Research, TNAU in his address was optimistic that such kind of network workshops can help to solve the multiple environmental issues faced in Tamil Nadu.

Earlier Dr. Deepak Kumaresan of Queen's University, UK highlighted the importance of the Network workshop and emphasized that addressing such key environmental issues is necessary as around 40 million migration is expected in the near future due to these issues.

Dr. R. Santhi, Director of Natural resources management, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, welcomed the gathering and Dr. K. Valliappan, Professor and Head, Environmental Sciences proposed vVote of thanks.

The workshop is being attended by around 80 delegates belonging to Ireland, Bangladesh, England, Guyana, Brazil, District environmental engineers, Scientists from Indian Rice Research Institute, Central Leather Research Institute, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Salim Ali Centre of Ornithology, entrepreneurs from industries and Scientists from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.