

3 DAYS NATIONAL WORKSHOP

Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on Integrating Gender and Livelihood Resiliency in Citrus based Farming Systems:

*Co-creating the Roadmap for Resilient, Inclusive and
Technology-Enabled Mandarin Farming*



Organised by

**ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute
Regional Station
Kalimpong, West Bengal**

In collaboration with

**ICAR-Central Citrus Research Institute (CCRI), Nagpur, Maharashtra
&
SAARESU, Kalimpong,
West Bengal**



Date: 13–15

OCTOBER, 2026

Venue : ICT Lab, IARI-Kalimpong | Hybrid Mode



About the

WORKSHOP

The Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on Integrating Gender and Livelihood Resiliency in Citrus based Farming Systems will be organized from 13-15 October, 2026 in ICAR- Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Regional Station, Kalimpong, West Bengal. The workshop is being organized under the NASF funded project of ICAR Central Corpus Fund (CCF) Young Scientist Project titled “Gendered Vulnerability and Livelihood Resiliency of Mandarin Growers: Outlining Pathways for Women Empowerment” which is being implemented by ICAR-IARI, RS, Kalimpong as lead centre and ICAR-Central Citrus Research Institute (CCRI), Nagpur, Maharashtra as co-operating centre.

The workshop is mainly about co-creating the Roadmap for Resilient, Inclusive and Technology-Enabled Mandarin Farming with gender concern. Women play a substantial role across different stages of mandarin cultivation, yet their participation in decision-making, access to resources, extension services and economic opportunities remains insufficiently documented and addressed. The project therefore seeks to understand the gender dimensions of mandarin farming, assess the vulnerability, livelihood resilience and adaptive behaviour of growers, and develop innovative extension approaches that can contribute to women’s empowerment and livelihood security.

The workshop will provide a platform for sharing the project’s research perspective, objectives and proposed areas of work followed by an interactive brainstorming session with distinguished agricultural scientists, extension professionals and other stakeholders.



Workshop

OBJECTIVES

1. Create a common understanding of the project vision, objectives, activities and expected outcomes among participating stakeholders.
2. Validate and refine the project framework based on field realities and stakeholder knowledge and prioritize key gender, livelihood, technological, extension and plant-health issues affecting mandarin growers.
3. Finalize the geographical and stakeholder implementation strategy for different project interventions.
4. Deliberate upon and finalize the research methodology, indicators, tools and approaches for assessing gender gaps, vulnerability, resilience, adaptive behaviour and empowerment.
5. Develop an implementation roadmap for the FPO-based Mandarin Plant Health Clinic and digital extension platform.
6. Establish institutional convergence and stakeholder responsibilities for effective implementation.
7. Develop a monitoring, evaluation and learning framework with measurable milestones and indicators.
8. Develop an actionable pathway for women empowerment and livelihood security of mandarin.



Key Themes & Areas of DISCUSSION



THEME I

Understanding Gender Dimensions in Mandarin Farming

- Women's participation in orchard management
- Division of labour and time burden
- Occupational drudgery and health hazards
- Women's role in decision-making
- Access to land, finance, inputs and technology
- Access to training and extension services
- Women's role in marketing and value addition
- Opportunities for women-led enterprises

THEME II

Vulnerability, Resilience and Adaptation

- Climate and weather-related stresses
- Biotic and abiotic stresses
- Market and price risks
- Socio-economic vulnerabilities
- Health and occupational risks
- Access to institutional support
- Livelihood diversification
- Traditional knowledge and adaptive practices

THEME III

Innovative Extension Approaches

1. FPO-Based Mandarin Plant Health Clinic

The workshop will deliberate on the proposed community-level Mandarin Plant Health Clinic (MPHC) and its operational mechanism through Farmer Producer Organizations.

2. AI-Based Digital Extension Platform

The proposed digital extension system will explore:

- Mobile-based agro-advisory
- Disease and pest-related information
- Orchard management recommendations
- Weather-related advisories
- Market information and updates
- Technology and knowledge resources

Research & Methodological Framework

- **Baseline Assessment**

Gender gaps | Drudgery | Vulnerability | Resilience | Adaptive behaviour | Empowerment | Knowledge & Skill | Technology Gap | Extension Gap

- **Design of Interventions**

Plant Health Clinic + Digital Extension + Capacity Building

- **Field Implementation**

Women Growers + FPOs + Extension Agencies + Technical Experts

- **Monitoring & Assessment**

Knowledge | Skill | Adoption | Extension Effectiveness | Empowerment | Livelihood Outcomes

- **Impact Assessment**

Pre-intervention → Intervention → Post-intervention

- **Quantitative Modelling Approaches for Gender Analysis**
- **Identifying Gender Issues in Climate-Vulnerable Agri Food System Using an Exploratory Sequential Mixed-Methods Approach**
- **Developing Gender-Responsive Indicators for Assessing Technology Adoption, Extension Access & Outcomes**

THEME V

Stakeholder Convergence

The workshop will bring together stakeholders representing different dimensions of the mandarin value chain and rural development ecosystem.

1. **Research & Academic Institutions**

- ICAR-IARI
- ICAR-CCRI
- Agricultural Universities
- KVKs
- Other relevant research institutions

3. **Community Institutions**

- Farmer Producer Organizations
- Self-Help Groups
- Farmer Clubs
- Women farmer groups
- Village-level institutions

5. **Farmers**

- Women mandarin growers
- Male mandarin growers
- Progressive farmers
- Orchard owners and entrepreneurs

2. **Government & Extension Agencies**

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Horticulture
- Rural Development agencies
- Local administration
- Other relevant line departments

4. **Market & Development Stakeholders**

- NABARD
- Financial institutions
- Market actors
- Agribusiness organizations
- NGOs and development agencies

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

DAY 1- 13 OCT 2026

TIMING

PARTICULARS

09:00 - 10:00	• Registration (Staff of ICAR-IARI-Kalimpong)
10:00 - 10:20	• Inauguration ceremony with ICAR Song & Lightening of Lamp by Dignitaries
10:20 - 10:30	• Welcome Speech, In-Charge, ICAR-IARI, RS-Kalimpong
10:30 - 10:40	• Remarks of Chief Guest - Dr. R.R. Burman Assistant Director General (Agricultural Extension), ICAR, MoA & FW, New Delhi
10:40 - 10:50	• Remarks of Guest of Honour - Dr. Y.S. Shivay, ADG(NASF), ICAR, MoA & FW, New Delhi
10:50 - 11:00	• Remarks of Chief Patron, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director & Vice Chancellor, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
11:00 - 11:10	• Remarks of Patron - Dr. Viswanathan Chinnusamy, Joint Director(Research), ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
11:10 - 11:20	• Remarks of Patron - Dr. R.N. Padaria, Joint Director(Extension), ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
11:20 - 11:30	• Vote of Thanks by Dr. Sangeeta Bhattacharyya, Scientist, ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur, Maharashtra
11:30 - 12:00	TEA BREAK
12:00 - 13:00	• Project Presentation on Gender Vulnerability & Livelihood Resiliency of Mandarin Growers - Dr. Sujit Sarkar, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IARI,RS - Kalimpong & Dr. Sangeeta Bhattacharyya, Scientist, ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur, Maharashtra



LUNCH BREAK



- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 14:00 - 14:30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing Inclusive & Resilient Agri-Food Systems through Gender- Responsive Extension - Prapti Barooah, IFPRI, New Delhi |
| 14:30 - 15:00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Women Entrepreneurship for Enhanced Livelihood Security - Dr. Rashmi Singh, Professor, Agricultural Extension, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi |
| 15:00 - 15:30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drudgery, Vulnerability & Livelihood Assessment of Citrus Growers: Gender Perspective - Dr. Pratibha Singh, Principal Scientist, CATAT, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi |
| 15:30 - 16:00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender-Responsive Farm Machinery & Tools for Citrus Farming: Technological Advances, Accessibility & Adoption - Dr. Chethan CR, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IARI, Assam |
| 16:00 - 17:30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brainstorming Session on Gender Issues on Different Citrus Growing Stages: Agronomic Management, Pest-Disease Management, Soil-Management, Post-Harvest Management & Marketing - Officials from NABARD, State Agricultural Department, State Horticultural Department, UBKV, KVK, Bank, NGOs, FPOs & SHGs Co-ordinator : Dr. Sujit Sarkar, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IARI, Kalimpong & Dr. Natasha Gurung, Senior Scientist, IARI, Kalimpong |



DAY 2- 14 OCT 2026

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 10:00 - 12:00 | • Quantitative Modelling Approaches for Gender Analysis in Agriculture: From Regression to Multivariate & Structural Equation Models - Dr. Sudipta Paul, Principal Scientist, Agril. Extension, ICAR-CRRI, Cuttack, Odisha & Dr. Arpan Bhowmick, Senior Scientist, Agril. Statistics, ICAR-IARI, Assam |
| 12:00 - 12:30 | • Developing Gender-Responsive Indicators for Assessing Technology Adoption, Extension Access & Outcomes in Citrus Value Chains - Dr. Sangeeta Bhattacharyya, Scientist, ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur, Maharashtra |
| 12:30 - 13:00 | • Identifying Gender Issues in Climate-Vulnerable Agri-Food System Using an Exploratory Sequential Mixed-Methods Approach - Dr. Prasanth A, CSIR-IHBT, Himachal Pradesh |



LUNCH BREAK



- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 14:00 - 15:00 | • Measuring Women's Empowerment in Citrus-Based Livelihoods: Indicators, Index Construction & Validation - Dr. Lipi Das, Principal Scientist, Agril. Extension, ICAR-CIWA, Odisha |
| 15:00 - 16:00 | • From Redistribution to Recognition: Centering Women in Mandarin Farming Initiatives - Ms. Adity Kumari, Project Lead, Development & Monitoring Office, Niti Ayog, New Delhi |
| 16:00 - 17:00 | • Gender Neutral Technological Advancement in Soil Health Management - Dr. Nintu Mandal, Senior Scientist, Soil Science, ICAR-NIASM, Baramati, Pune |
| 17:00 - 17:30 | • PRA Tools & Approaches for Gender Analysis - Dr. Misha Madhavan M., Scientist, Division of Agricultural Extension, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi & Dr. Shubhadeep Roy, Associate Professor, Agril. Extension, BHU, UP |



DAY 3- 15 OCT 2026

- 09:00 - 13:00
- Field Visit & Farmers Interaction - Kalimpong & Mungpoo, Co-ordinator : Dr. Sujit Sarkar, Senior Scientist, IARI, Kalimpong



LUNCH BREAK



- 14:00 - 14:30
- Presentation on Gender Vulnerability & Livelihood Resiliency & Presenting Workshop Summery - Dr. Sujit Sarkar, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IARI, RS-Kalimpong
- 14:30 - 15:00
- Valedictory Session: Remarks of Chief Advisor - Dr. Satya Priya, Head Division of Agril. Extension, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
- 15:00 - 15:30
- Remarks of Guest of Honour - Dr. Souvik Ghosh, Head, Agril. Extension, Visva-Bharati University
- 15:30 - 16:00
- Remarks of Chief Guest - Prof. Debabrata Basu, Vice-Chancellor, UBKV, Cooch Behar
- 16:00 - 17:00
- Vote of Thanks - Dr. Natasha Gurung, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IARI, RS-Kalimpong



Expected Outcomes & Long Term Contributions of the Workshop

- **Finalized Project Roadmap**
- **Refined Research Methodology**
- **Stakeholder Engagement Framework**
- **Intervention Strategy**
- **Baseline & Monitoring Framework**
- **Gender-Responsive Extension Framework**
- **Institutional Convergence Plan**
- **Knowledge & Technology Dissemination Plan**
- **Gender-responsive agriculture**
- **Resilient livelihoods**
- **Stronger extension systems**
- **Technology-enabled advisory**
- **Community-based plant health services**
- **Evidence-based policy**

About the PROJECT

THE PROJECT “GENDERED VULNERABILITY AND LIVELIHOOD RESILIENCY OF MANDARIN GROWERS: OUTLINING PATHWAYS FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT” FOCUSES ON UNDERSTANDING THE GENDER-SPECIFIC DIMENSIONS OF VULNERABILITY AND RESILIENCE WITHIN MANDARIN-GROWING COMMUNITIES.

THE RESEARCH SEEKS TO GENERATE EVIDENCE ON WOMEN'S ROLES, EXPERIENCES, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN CITRUS-BASED LIVELIHOODS AND TO OUTLINE POTENTIAL PATHWAYS FOR ENHANCING LIVELIHOOD RESILIENCE AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN THE CENTRAL INDIAN AND HIMALAYAN REGIONS.



ORGANISING INSTITUTION

**ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)
Regional Station, Kalimpong, West Bengal**

In Collaboration with

**ICAR-Central Citrus Research Institute (CCRI), Nagpur,
Maharashtra**

&

SAARESU, Kalimpong, West Bengal

PATRONAGE & ORGANISING COMMITTEE

CHIEF PATRON

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao
Director & Vice-Chancellor
ICAR-IARI, New Delhi



CO-PATRONS

Dr. Viswanathan Chinnusamy
Joint Director(Research)
ICAR-IARI, New Delhi



&

Dr. R. N. Padaria
Joint Director(Extension)
ICAR-IARI, New Delhi



INAUGURAL SESSION

CHIEF GUEST

Dr. R. R. Burman
Assistant Director General
(Agricultural Extension)
ICAR, MoA & FW, New Delhi



GUEST OF HONOURS

Dr. Yashbir Singh Shivay
Assistant Director General
(NASF)
ICAR-IARI, New Delhi



VALEDICTORY SESSION

CHIEF GUEST

Prof. Debabrata Basu
Vice-Chancellor, Uttar Banga
Krishi Vishwavidyalaya
Coochbehar,
West Bengal



GUEST OF HONOURS

Dr. Souvik Ghosh
Head, Agril. Extension,
Visva-Bharati, West Bengal



CHIEF ADVISORS

Dr. Satya Priya

Head, Division of Agril. Extension,
ICAR-IARI, New Delhi



&

Dr. Rashmi Singh

Professor, Division of Agril. Extension,
ICAR-IARI, New Delhi



ORGANIZING SECRETARIES

Dr. Sujit Sarkar

Senior Scientist
ICAR-IARI, (RS, Kalimpong)



&

Dr. Sangeeta Bhattacharyya

Scientist
ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur



CO-ORGANIZING SECRETARIES

Dr. Natasha Gurung

Senior Scientist
ICAR-IARI, (RS, Kalimpong)



&

Dr. Subrata Manna

KVK, Kalimpong,
(Computer Programmer)





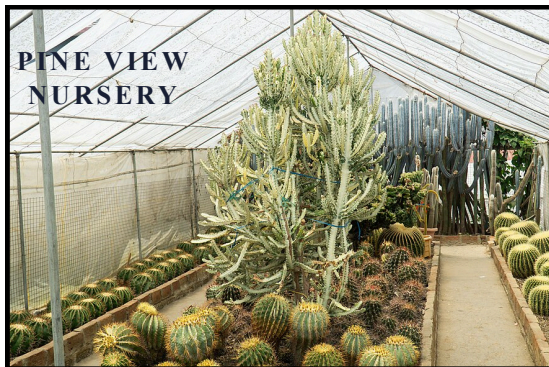
HOW TO REACH KALIMPONG

TO REACH KALIMPONG, FLY INTO BAGDOGRA AIRPORT (78 KM AWAY) OR TAKE A TRAIN TO NEW JALPAIGURI (NJP) RAILWAY STATION (70 KM AWAY) FROM MAJOR CITIES OF INDIA. FROM EITHER HUB, HIRE A PRIVATE TAXI, SHARED CAB, OR TAKE A BUS VIA SILIGURI TO COMPLETE THE 2-TO-3 HOUR MOUNTAIN ROAD JOURNEY. YOU CAN ALSO TAKE A ROAD JOURNEY TO KALIMPONG IF YOU ARE COMING FROM NEARBY DISTRICTS.





PLACES TO VISIT



**PINE VIEW
NURSERY**

ESTABLISHED IN 1971 BY MR. MOHAN S. PRADHAN, WHO TURNED HIS PASSION FOR EXOTIC PLANTS INTO A MASSIVE GLOBAL COLLECTION.

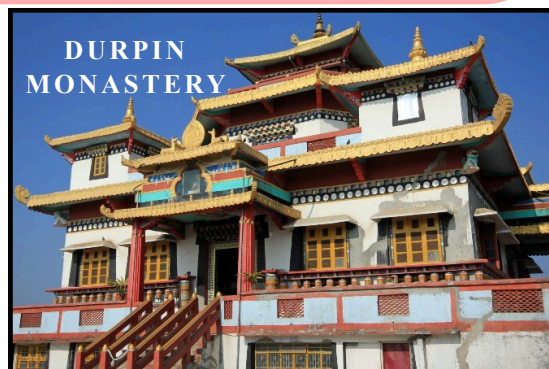
FEATURES OVER 1,500 SPECIES OF CACTI AND SUCCULENTS GATHERED FROM AROUND THE WORLD OVER FOUR DECADES.

GENERALLY OPEN FROM 9:30 AM TO 5:00 PM (APRIL TO SEPTEMBER) AND 9:30 AM TO 4:30 PM (OCTOBER TO MARCH), WITH NOMINAL ENTRY FEES .

VISITORS CAN WALK THROUGH LARGE GREENHOUSES, BUY SELECT PLANTS AND SEEDS, OR CHECK OUT THE ON-SITE COTTAGE ACCOMMODATIONS AND SMALL CAFES

ESTABLISHED IN THE 1950S/1970S (CONSTRUCTION BEGAN AROUND 1957 UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF DUDJOM RINPOCHE) AND OFFICIALLY CONSECRATED BY HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA IN 1976.

IT HOUSES THE SACRED 108 VOLUMES OF THE BUDDHIST KANGYUR, WHICH WERE BROUGHT INTO EXILE AND CARRIED BY THE DALAI LAMA, ALONG WITH NUMEROUS OTHER RARE NYINGMA LINEAGE TEXTS AND SACRED SCROLLS



**DURPIN
MONASTERY**

OFFERS A 360-DEGREE PANORAMIC VIEW OF KALIMPONG TOWN, THE RELI VALLEY, THE WINDING TEESTA RIVER, AND THE SNOW-CLAD KANCHENJUNGA PEAKS ON A CLEAR DAY.

A BEAUTIFULLY LANDSCAPED, SPACIOUS GARDEN FEATURING MANICURED GREEN LAWNS AND COLORFUL EXOTIC FLOWERS.

POPULAR FOR PICNICS, PHOTOGRAPHY, WALKING IN THE CLOUDS, HORSE RIDING, AND ADVENTURE SPORTS LIKE PARAGLIDING.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS HOUSES WATER RESERVOIRS FOR THE TOWN, THE KALIMPONG SCIENCE CENTRE, AND THE DEOLO HILL TOURIST LODGE



DELO PARK

ESTABLISHED BY THE LATE PADMA SHRI SONAM TSHERING LEPCHA, A RENOWNED EXPONENT OF TRADITIONAL LEPCHA FOLK MUSIC AND CULTURE WHO DEDICATED HIS LIFE TO REVIVING THE COMMUNITY'S TRADITIONS.

ORIGINAL, HANDMADE LEPCHA MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS (INCLUDING UNIQUE WIND AND STRING INSTRUMENTS).

TRADITIONAL COSTUMES, HAND-WOVEN HANDICRAFT ITEMS, KITCHENWARE, AND HUNTING EQUIPMENT.

RARE MANUSCRIPTS, OLD BOOKS, AND DISPLAYS ILLUSTRATING THE SCRIPT, ARCHITECTURE, AND TRIBAL HISTORY.



**LEPCHA
MUSEUM**