



L'INSTITUT SHASTRI INDO-CANADIAN  
INDO-CANADIEN INSTITUTE

# Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute's Bi-national Agri-Cluster Workshop, 2024

February | 2024  
22-23  
TNAU, Coimbatore





## **Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute's Bi-national Agri-Cluster Workshop, 2024**



### **ABOUT SHASTRI INDO-CANADIAN INSTITUTE (SICI)**

The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI) is a unique bi-national organization, mandated by governments of India and Canada to promote, facilitate, and nurture academic linkages, collaborations & exchanges, research partnerships, and networks on bi-national corridors. With its physical presence in New Delhi, India and Calgary, Canada, and a strong base of 150 Indian and 40 Canadian member institutions, for past 55 years, SICI is the only organization in the Canada-India higher education corridor that is instrumental in building and strengthening intellectual and cultural relationship through research and dialogue. Funded by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, it supports diverse disciplines including Social Sciences, Humanities, Science & Technology, Biotechnology, Agriculture, Arts, Literature, Culture, Law, Business, Economic Reform, etc. and covers all levels of higher education from undergraduate to postdoc and from faculty to collaborative research.

### **ABOUT TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY (TNAU)**

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) established in 1971. TNAU assumed full responsibilities of Agricultural Education and Research and supported the State Agricultural Department by delivering research products. Apart from academic institutes, the University has research programs at more than 40 stations, and 15 KVKs spread over in Tamil Nadu for effective technology transfer.

### **ABOUT BI-NATIONAL AGRI-CLUSTER**

Agriculture cooperation is front and centre of India-Canada bilateral relations and to achieve goals that are of strategic importance for both countries. With a vibrant trading relationship in agriculture and agri-food research and development partnerships are capable of catering to the contextual needs of India and Canada's agriculture sector leading to product development, innovation and solution creation. As farmers and rural areas face the dramatic effects of climate change globally, India and Canada are gearing to pursue initiatives on agriculture and climate to make agricultural communities more resilient and well-informed. A major focus of this bilateral cooperation is to help each other.

Launched in March 2022, the opening cluster of Shastri Thematic Research Cluster Programme was in the domain of Agriculture. It garnered an excellent level of interest from Indian and Canadian researchers. Under the banner of this initiative, the Institute formed Shastri Mapping and Matching Bi-national Interest Workshops as the prime instrument to initiate clusters' operations and hosted online workshops in the six (6) thematic clusters. These workshops have received tremendous backing and participation from 50-plus institutions/organizations from India and Canada along with other major stakeholders. Chairs and Co-chairs from the Canadian and Indian ends were appointed to navigate the agenda of the Agri-cluster. The current chair and co-chair are-

**Canada Chair : Prof. Charlotte Yates President & Vice-Chancellor, University of Guelph**

**India Chair : Prof. V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University**

### **SICI AND TNAU COMING TOGETHER**

As per the mandate of the Agri-cluster, SICI will hold activities i.e. workshops, roundtables, and conferences annually in collaboration with the member institutions/universities and institutions of national importance in the field of agriculture. During the last visit of Dr. V. Geetha Lakshmi to Canada, both the chairs decided to host two major bi-national events at their respective places in collaboration with SICI. This Workshop is the first in this series in collaboration with SICI and TNAU.



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## ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

This Bi-national Agri-cluster workshop 2024 will further strengthen academic ties between Canadian and Indian agri-scientists, and provide a platform to share knowledge with the other stakeholders of the cluster, thus enriching their experiences, increasing their understanding, developing partnerships, and creating a platform to develop the robust roadmap and collaboration for agri-education and skill development between Indian and Canadian institutions of SICI. This knowledge will help to build a strong network of stakeholders between the two countries and benefit both nations. It will also help to promote scientific collaboration between the two countries, leading to the development of new technologies and practices that can help to solve global agricultural challenges.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

1. To bring the research of both countries under one umbrella to explore partnership on topics of mutual interest
2. Transfer of technology
3. Develop a robust roadmap for agri-education, skill development, and industry engagement

## THEMES

1. Precision Agriculture
2. Food Processing and Value Addition
3. Waste Management
4. Soil and Plant Health
5. Technology Development and Transfer
6. Agri-Education & Skill Development
7. Industry Linkages

## PATRONS

Prof. V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India

Prof. Pavneesh Madan, President, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute

## CONVENER

Dr. Prachi Kaul, Director, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, New Delhi, India

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prof. Deep Saini, Founding Chair of SICI Agri-cluster from Canada, President and Vice-Chancellor, McGill University, Canada

Prof. S. Rajendra Prasad, Founding Co-Chair of SICI Agri Cluster, and former Vice-Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences Bangalore, India

Dr. Nataraja Karaba N, Co-Coordinator, SICI Agri Cluster, and Professor, Department of Crop Physiology, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore (UASB), India

Dr. Sven Anders, SICI Agriculture Cluster Chair, Canada, Professor, Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology, University of Alberta, Canada

Prof. PG Chengappa, SICI Agriculture Cluster Chair, India, Ex-Vice Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences Bangalore, India

Dr. Ahmad Al-Mallahi, SICI Agriculture Cluster Chair, Canada, Industry Research Chair and Assistant Professor, Department of Engineering Agricultural Campus, Dalhousie University, Canada



## Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute's Bi-national Agri-Cluster Workshop, 2024



**Dr. Rabi Narayan Sahoo**, SICI Agriculture Cluster Chair, India, Principal Scientist, Division of Agricultural Physics, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

**Dr. R Uma Shankar (Shaanker)**, SICI Agriculture Cluster Chair, India, Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Jammu, India

**Dr. Ravindra N Chibbar**, SICI Agriculture Cluster Chair, Canada, Professor, Department of Plant Sciences, University of Saskatchewan, Canada

**Dr. Nachiket Kotwaliwale**, SICI Agriculture Cluster Chair, India, ICAR – Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), India

**Dr. Gale Bozzo**, SICI Agriculture Cluster Chair, Canada Associate Professor, Associate Chair, Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph, Canada

**Dr R N Srinivas Gowda**, SICI Agriculture Cluster Chair, India, Ex-Vice-Chancellor, Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University (KVAFSU), India

**Dr R Thamizh Vendan**, Registrar, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India

**Dr M Raveendran**, Director of Research, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India

**Dr. S Pazhanvelan**, Director (CW&GS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India

**Dr A Raviraj**, Dean (Agrl. Engineering), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India

**Dr. P Balasubramanlam**, Director (NRM), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India

**Dr. N Senthil**, Dean (SPGS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India

### CO-ORDINATOR

**Dr. Balakrishnan Prithiviraj**, Associate Vice President, (Global Relations), Associate Professor/Plant Stress Physiology Research Chair, Dalhousie University, Canada

**Dr. K. M. Sellamuthu**, Professor, Centre for Students Welfare, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India

### ORGANISING SECRETARY

**Dr. N. Maragatham**, Dean (CSW), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India

**Dr. Reshma**, Programme Officer, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, New Delhi, India

### ELIGIBILITY

Candidates must be affiliated with any Indian / Canadian Institution / University / Organisation

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Interested members are invited to send completed proforma (in the sting) at [siciapplications@sici.org.in](mailto:siciapplications@sici.org.in) by the deadline January 26, 2024.

### CONTACT FOR DETAILS

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## PROFORMA FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Name:

Institution / University / Organisation:

Full address:

E-mail:

Contact Number:

Are you associated with a SICI member institutions?

Yes/No

*If not, please indicate your current university/institution of affiliation:*

Tick the checkbox to choose your area of Interest to collaborate with the Canadian / Indian Institute. You can opt for more than one theme, if required.

- |                                           |                          |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Precision Agriculture                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Food Processing and Value Addition     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Waste Management                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Soil and Plant Health                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Technology Development and Transfer    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Agri - Education and Skill Development | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Industry Linkages                      | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Are you already in any collaboration in similar areas with Indian / Canadian institutions?

Yes

No

*If yes, please provide details...*

Signature:

Date:

(Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/cj7wWBhEDqiEmzRq7>)