

As a part of the new initiative SAFOAM has started organizing series of webinar on important areas of Agrometeorology.

1. First webinar on "Livelihood Enhancement through Agroclimatic Risk and Opportunity Management with Engagement Practices" was organised at 16.00 IST (4.00 pm) on 12<sup>th</sup> June. Dr. Samsul Huda, Adjunct Associate Professor, School of Science, Western Sydney University, Australia. The presentation of Dr. Huda outlined thoughts on scaling up and out of pilot outcomes to other communities in India, and beyond, that would have far-reaching benefits in contributing to enhanced livelihoods, reduced poverty, improved productivity and increased small-holder competitiveness. Dr.Huda demonstrated livelihood improvements through capture of excess rain water normally lost, and applied using climate -smart practices to diversify agricultural production and improve water use efficiency. He also discussed on Himalayan University Consortium, ICIMOD. Besides, discussion was made how International Society for Agricultural Meteorology (INSAM) and South Asia Forum on Agricultural Meteorology (SAFOAM) can help in capacity building of the mountain communities in relation to improving their livelihood through climate-smart agricultural practices (integrating crops and livestock)( [Presentation of Dr. Huda](#))

[http://www.agrometeorology.org/news/what-new/files-folder/repository/Presentaion\\_Huda.pdf](http://www.agrometeorology.org/news/what-new/files-folder/repository/Presentaion_Huda.pdf)

Video Link of the webinar is as follows.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGLYiFS4ZDs>

2. Webinar on "Activities on Agrometeorology in Italy: Research and Services" was organised at 16.00 IST (4.00 pm) on 26<sup>th</sup> June. Three eminent scientists in the field of Agricultural Meteorology Dr. Francesca Ventura, University of Bologna, Italy, Dr. Federico Spanna, Piedmont Regional Agrometeorological Service, Italy & Dr. Chiara Epifani, The Council for Agricultural Research and Economics, Italy jointly delivered presentation on the above-mentioned subject. Participants from different countries attended the webinar.

At the outset Dr. Francesca nicely described the structure as well as the different activities of the Italian Association of Agrometeorology followed by activities on university research particularly in respect of crop and weed physiology, soil water management and water balance, pathogens, plant phenology, crop growth models & environmental models. Also mentioned on University research in new and emerging topics like bioclimatic indices, climate change, adaptation & mitigation strategies, weather extremes and risk management, use of medium and long-term (seasonal) forecasts, satellites data, precision irrigation, precision agriculture including university education.

Dr. Chiara in her presentation informed that Council for Agricultural Research and Analysis of Agricultural Economics (CREA) is the leading Italian research organization dedicated to the agri-food supply chains and operate as a legal entity under public law, and we are supervised by the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry (Mipaaf). According to her scientific activities of CREA cover agricultural crops, livestock, fishery, forestry, agro-industry, food science – and socio-

economics. She talked about more on CREA, and Agrometeore project in Italy, The National Coordination Table in the Agrometeorology Sector and its aim, the agro-meteo-climatic indicators – how to choose, specific agrometeorological indices for crops.

Dr. Federico Spanna briefed about the actual main regulations involving agrometeorology under European Union for the development of agriculture in all its modern aspects. He covered number of important issues like Integrate Crop Management (ICM), the actual main regulations regarding agrometeorology, framework for community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides, national action plan on the sustainable use of pesticides, agrometeorology and climate change, contributions from agrometeorological services, services and decision support systems, technical and operational framework, estimation of climatic variables and bioclimatic indices, numerical weather forecasts, phytopatological models, biophysical models for estimation of climatic variables and simulation of Soil - Vegetation - Atmosphere processes, regional web services for bulletins dissemination. ( [Presentation Activities on Agrometeorology in Italy: Research and Services](#))

<http://www.agrometeorology.org/news/what-new/files-folder/repository/AIAM%20x%20INSAM.pdf>

Video Link of the webinar is as follows.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SsfCKGygOOA>

### ***Workshop on Steering the activities of South Asia Forum on Agricultural Meteorology***

South Asia Forum on Agricultural Meteorology (SAFOAM) organised “Workshop on Steering the Activities of South Asia Forum on Agricultural Meteorology” on 13th June, 2021 by inviting all the founding members of the forum from different countries in South Asia

The workshop was started by welcoming all the participants from the member countries in South Asia including the international experts from USA, Brazil, Switzerland and Australia and distinguished personalities from number of international organisations like Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System (RIMES), International Water management Institute (IWMI) in the “Workshop on Steering the Activities of South Asia Forum on Agricultural Meteorology (SAFOAM)”. 72 participants attended the meeting (list of the participants is available in Annexure III).

There were two sessions (Programme Details is available in Annexure II) in the workshop. In the first session, Group leaders of the different Core Groups were requested to deliver a brief presentation mentioning the salient points of discussion made in the respective Core Group meetings along with the recommendation for getting suggestions from the broader group meeting in the workshop. In the second session, panel discussion for preparation of road map and ultimately the implementation strategies were made.