



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Fifty-ninth session  
24-30 April 2003  
Bangkok

**EMERGING ISSUES AND DEVELOPMENTS AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL:  
POVERTY REDUCTION**

(Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda)

**REPORT OF THE REGIONAL COORDINATION CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT OF COARSE GRAINS, PULSES, ROOTS AND TUBER CROPS  
IN THE HUMID TROPICS OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

*Note by the secretariat*

**SUMMARY**

In accordance with article 17 of the Statute of the Regional Coordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific (CGPRT Centre), the Governing Board submits an annual report on the implementation of its programmes to the Commission at each of its sessions. Article 28 of the Statute stipulates that the Commission, at each of its sessions, shall review the status of the resources of the Centre on the basis of the report of the Governing Board and provide appropriate recommendations to ensure that timely and adequate resources are made available for the Centre and its programmes.

This report on the CGPRT Centre has been prepared and submitted to the Commission in accordance with those stipulations. Section I contains a summary of the discussions of the Centre's Governing Board, at its twenty-first session, held in January 2003. Section II deals with issues raised by the Board for consideration by the Commission, including:

- (a) The objectives, role and function of the Centre and its capacity to respond to the needs of the developing member countries;
- (b) The provision of competent experts with the knowledge required to ensure the successful implementation of the Centre's activities;
- (c) The strengthening and stabilization of the Centre's financial status, both institutional and programme support resources, in order to enhance programme activities;
- (d) The advancement and regularization of the allocation of funds to institutional and programme support resources to ensure the stable operation of the Centre and the timely and effective implementation of its programme activities.



## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction .....	1
I. SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN 2002.....	1
II. ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE COMMISSION OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION .....	2
III. IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMMES IN 2002 AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2003 AND BEYOND.....	3
A. Research and development programme .....	3
B. Information services and database programme.....	4
IV. FINANCIAL STATUS.....	5
V. TWENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CGPRT CENTRE .....	5

## ANNEXES

I. Involvement of countries in the activities of the CGPRT Centre in 2002 .....	7
II. Staffing status in 2002 and staffing plan for 2003 .....	8
III. Summary of programme activities in 2002.....	9
IV. Projects for 2003 and beyond .....	11
V. Institutional support resources: Indonesian contribution - estimated expenditure in 2002 and budget plan for 2003 .....	12
VI. Institutional support resources: joint contribution - estimated expenditure in 2002 and budget plan for 2003 .....	13
VII. Institutional support resources: contributions from members, 1992-2002 .....	14



## **Introduction**

1. Details of the major developments that have occurred in the operation of the Regional Coordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific (CGPRT Centre) in 2002 are presented in this report. The activities planned for 2003 and beyond, endorsed by the Governing Board at its twenty-first session, in January 2003, are presented, together with a review of the status of the Centre's financial resources.

### **I. SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN 2002**

2. In 2002, the Centre carried out its activities within the framework of two programmes, research and development and information services and database. The Centre implemented three research and development projects and provided other information (see annex III). These activities were carried out in collaboration with national agricultural research institutes, national policy planning agencies and other agencies and organizations involved in the development of CGPRT crops. The information and recommendations generated by and disseminated through these activities were widely utilized. The involvement of countries in the activities of the Centre is presented in annex I.

3. Specific programme support came from the Governments and research institutes of France and Japan in 2002. Institutional support was also given by the Governments of Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

4. The Government of Indonesia, the host, continued to provide premises and facilities for the Centre as well as financial and in-kind support. In particular, its appreciable contribution to the institutional resources has enabled the Centre to sustain its basic operations and management. The Government also provided additional resources for the renovation of the Centre.

5. The Centre carried out its operations with five Professional staff, comprised of a Director, a programme leader, two project leaders and an editor, who were provided by member Governments and institutions. The Centre conducted 80 work-months of research in 2002 in cooperation with experts at partner institutes in member countries. There were 10 support staff at the end of 2002. The staffing status in 2002 and the staffing plan for 2003 are shown in annex II.

6. The Centre maintained cooperation with its partners in developing member countries of the region. It expanded its cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other international and regional institutions. Those included the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Potato Center, the International Water Management Institute,

national institutions such as the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, the Center for International Cooperation in Agronomic Research for Development (CIRAD), the Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences, the Central Research Institute for Food Crops and the Center for Agro-Socioeconomic Research and Development of Indonesia.

## **II. ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE COMMISSION OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION**

7. The overall quantity of resources for institutional support and programme activities declined in 2002. The Centre's general financial situation has remained unstable and the funds available for its activities are insufficient. The Commission may wish to urge its members and associate members to provide contributions either at a minimum threshold level or higher, according to the capacity of individual countries.

8. The objectives, role and function of the Centre and its capacity to respond to the needs of developing member countries by providing technical services and assistance can be achieved by implementing collaborative projects and activities. Programme activities would have to be expanded to respond to the increasing and changing needs of such members. The diversification of funding sources should ensure a stable and sustained increase in the resources of the Centre and avoid wide annual fluctuations. The Commission may wish to express appreciation for the support of the Governments of its members and associate members and of donor agencies for the Centre's programme resources. The Commission may wish to request its members and associate members and donor agencies to consider increasing their support for the Centre's programmes and projects and allocate it on a timely basis.

9. While the importance of and the increasing need for training activities have been well recognized, the Centre was unable to organize training courses under the human resources development programme in 2002 owing to a lack of funds. The Centre has proposed a new project relating to human resources development for 2003 and beyond. The Commission may wish to express appreciation for this effort and ask its members and associate members to pay more attention to the implementation of the Centre's human resources development activities.

10. The staff of the Centre have been and will continue to be provided by member Governments and institutions through funds-in-trust, non-reimbursable loans and other means. Competent and experienced experts with knowledge and skills that match the programmes and projects of the Centre are essential to ensure its successful operation. The Commission may wish to express its appreciation to those Governments and agencies that have provided experts to the Centre and urge them to continue and strengthen their support through the provision of experts, preferably through non-reimbursable loans.

### **III. IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMMES IN 2002 AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2003 AND BEYOND**

#### **A. Research and development programme**

11. The Centre's research and development programme has been structured according to the strategic plan for the Centre towards the twenty-first century.

12. Its research projects are undertaken in collaboration with partner institutes of member countries. Under this arrangement, the Centre's staff work together with national researchers, policy planners, other officials and universities. In view of the catalytic role played by the Centre in the collaborative process, projects have been implemented by national teams of experts while the staff of the Centre assume planning and coordination roles. The Centre takes the leading role in identifying and formulating projects in consultation with its partners and in submitting proposals to potential funding sources.

13. In 2002, the Centre implemented three projects, listed below, in the framework of its research and development programme. Two of these projects will continue in 2003:

- (a) Stabilization of upland agriculture and rural development in countries vulnerable to El Niño;
- (b) Prospects of feed crops in South Asia;
- (c) Management of agricultural policies for sustainable development, with a focus on the supply of food for urban consumers.

14. The project on the stabilization of upland agriculture and rural development in countries vulnerable to El Niño was funded by the Government of Japan. It started in April 2000 and entered its third phase in June 2002. The meeting on the draft report of the second phase of the project was held at the Centre on 25 and 26 June 2002. First-phase country reports from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand were published during the period January-May 2002. The international joint workshop on coping with El Niño for stabilizing rainfed agriculture: lessons from Asia and the Pacific was coorganized by the CGPRT Centre, the Philippine Department of Agriculture, the Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research and the International Water Management Institute. It was held at Cebu, Philippines, from 17 to 19 September 2002. The ELNINO-ECOPOL (MAPSuD) prospective workshop on a 2020 vision of CGPRT crops in Asia and the Pacific was held at the CGPRT Centre from 25 to 28 November 2002. This workshop aimed to identify the long-term research and policy strategies for CGPRT crop development, focusing on socio-economic evolution and increasing climatic risks in Asia and the Pacific up to 2020.

15. The following activities are planned for January and March 2003: in-country seminars in Malaysia and Thailand in January and in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines in February; the proceedings of the joint international workshop will be published in January; first-phase country reports from Papua New Guinea and the Philippines and second-phase country reports from Malaysia and Thailand will also be published in January; second-phase country reports of Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines will appear in February; and the integrated project report will be published in March.

16. The project on prospects of feed crops in South Asia, funded by the Government of Japan, started in July 2001. The project aims to analyse the potential, weaknesses, opportunities, constraints and policy options for the development of feed-crop farming, mainly based on CGPRT crops in South Asian developing countries, in balance with the rapid development of livestock and the fish culture industry in Asia. Four countries, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, participated in the project. Country studies were completed in May 2002 and a regional workshop was conducted at Bogor, Indonesia, on 3 and 4 September 2002. The integrated report, proceedings of the workshop and country reports will be published soon.

17. The project on the management of agricultural policies for sustainable development with a focus on the supply of food for urban consumers (MAPSuD-Metropol) received a grant from CIRAD and the Government of France; it started in January 2001. In 2002, project activities included an inventory of research and development units in 19 countries in Asia and the Pacific; a study of CGPRT crop trends in 26 countries of the region; and an analysis looking out to the year 2020. The results will be published in 2003.

18. The MAPSuD project will be continued in 2003, in spite of the withdrawal of financial support from the Government of France, thanks to CIRAD support. Projected activities include the development of computerized support for a socio-economic household survey and a database on CGPRT crops, the production of a handbook (guidelines and software) for an expert-based prospective analysis and the elaboration of a strategy for active monitoring of secondary crops in Asia and the Pacific by the CGPRT Centre.

19. For 2003 and beyond, the Centre is planning to implement two ongoing projects and three new projects (see annex IV).

## **B. Information services and database programme**

20. The Centre has continued to publish monographs, working papers and its quarterly newsletter, *Palawija News*. In 2002, the Centre published three working papers and three issues of the newsletter (see annex III).



21. The Centre continued to update its databases of CGPRT crops in the region but did not publish any profiles.

#### **IV. FINANCIAL STATUS**

22. The estimated expenditure from institutional support resources in 2002 was Rp 446,000,000 and US\$ 274,286 (see annexes V and VI). Contributions to these resources were to be made by Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The evolution of contributions to the institutional support resources from member Governments from 1992 to 2002 is shown in annex VII.

23. The cash expenditure from programme support resources for specific projects and activities was US\$ 389,679. Other forms of support were received, mostly expert services, which totalled 80 work-months. Contributions of these resources were made by France, Japan and developing countries.

24. The estimated expenditure from institutional support resources for 2003 is Rp 446,000,000 and US\$ 310,898 (see annexes V and VI).

25. Based on planned projects and activities for 2003, subject to the availability of funds for several of those projects, programme expenditure for 2003 is estimated to be US\$ 400,940. The bulk of in-kind contributions are expected to be expert services from Governments and agencies, which are estimated to total 73 work-months.

26. The general resource situation of the Centre remains unstable and available funds are insufficient. Resources for institutional and programme support should be expanded so that the Centre can respond to the increasing and changing needs for CGPRT crop development in developing countries in the region. Since the Centre relies on the provision of staff from Governments and other institutions for its expert services, an increase in and the continuation of such services to match the requirements of programmes and projects is essential to ensure the success of the Centre.

#### **V. TWENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CGPRT CENTRE**

27. The twenty-first session of the Governing Board of the CGPRT Centre was held at Bogor, Indonesia, on 14 and 15 January 2003. Representatives of Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, France, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand attended as members of the Board. Representatives of the Center for International Forestry Research, the International Potato Center, CIRAD and the International Center for Research in Agroforestry as well as a consultant to ESCAP attended the session as observers.

28. The Board was informed of the Centre's activities in 2002 and its programme of work for 2003 and beyond. It expressed general satisfaction with the Centre's activities in 2002 in both the research and development and information services and database programmes. It expressed interest in ideas for new projects for 2003 and beyond. Some members expressed an interest in participating in new projects. The Board emphasized that the Centre should disseminate the findings of its research and other relevant information more widely and effectively.

29. The Board endorsed the report on the progress made in 2002 and adopted the programme of work for 2003 and beyond. It was informed of expenditure from institutional and programme support resources in 2002 and the estimated expenditure and financial situation in 2003. The Board emphasized that the Centre's institutional and programme support resources needed to be stabilized and stressed the importance of expanding funding sources.

30. The Board approved the report on expenditure in 2002 and planned expenditure for 2003. It expressed appreciation to the Director and staff of the Centre for their well-prepared report and for organizing the session. The Board requested that the Director take its observations into account in the implementation of programme activities.

*Annex I***Involvement of countries in the activities of the CGPRT Centre in 2002**

Country	Governing Board	Technical Advisory Committee	Provision of resource person and consultant	Participation in collaborative research	Participation in seminar, workshop and training course	Information services <sup>a</sup>
Australia	-	+	+	-	-	+
Bangladesh	+	-	-	-	-	+
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	+	+
Canada	-	-	-	-	-	+
China	-	-	-	-	-	+
Fiji	-	-	-	-	-	+
France	+	+	+	+	-	+
India	+	+	+	+	+	+
Indonesia	+	+	+	+	+	+
Japan	+	+	+	-	+	+
Lao People's Democratic Republic	-	-	-	-	-	+
Malaysia	-	-	+	+	+	+
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	-	+
Nepal	-	-	+	+	+	+
Netherlands	-	+	-	-	-	+
Pakistan	+	-	+	+	+	+
Papua New Guinea	-	-	+	+	+	+
Philippines	+	-	+	+	+	+
Republic of Korea	+	+	-	-	-	+
Sri Lanka	+	-	+	+	+	+
Thailand	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tonga	-	-	-	-	-	+
Vanuatu	-	-	-	-	-	+
Viet Nam	-	-	-	-	+	+

<sup>a</sup> Includes various activities.

*Annex II***Staffing status in 2002 and staffing plan for 2003**

	In position as at 31 October 2002	Plan for 2003 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Management and administration</b>		
Director	1	1
Administrative/accounting assistant <sup>b</sup>	1	1
Secretary <sup>b</sup>	1	1
Driver/messenger <sup>b</sup>	2	2
Total	5	5
<b>Research and development programme</b>		
Programme leader	1	1
Project leader	2	2
Project assistant <sup>b</sup>	4	3
Total	7	6
<b>Information services and database</b>		
Editor	1	1
Librarian <sup>b</sup>	1	1
Data entry clerk <sup>b</sup>	2	2
Total	4	4
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>

<sup>a</sup> Based on the programme of work for 2003.

<sup>b</sup> Staff in the General Services category.

*Annex III***Summary of programme activities in 2002**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Implementation period</b>	<b>Participating countries</b>	<b>Total cost (US dollars)</b>	<b>Major donor</b>	<b>Status as at end of 2002</b>
<b>COMPLETED</b>					
1. Prospects of feed crops in South Asia (FEED)	2001-2002 (one and a half years)	India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka	72 754	Government of Japan	Completion of country studies Publication of country reports, integrated report and proceedings of the regional workshop (all reports completed)
<b>ONGOING</b>					
1. Stabilization of upland agriculture and rural development in countries vulnerable to El Niño (ELNINO)	2000-2003 (three years)	Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand	706 575	Government of Japan	Phase I Completion of country and regional studies Draft meeting Publication of the first country reports (three reports completed) Phase II Completion of country and regional studies Planning meeting Joint workshop in the Philippines Publication of the second country reports and workshop proceedings In-country seminars
2. Management of agricultural policies for sustainable development with orientation towards the supply of food for urban consumers (MAPSuD-Metropol)	2001-2003 (three years)	Nineteen Asian and Pacific countries	— <sup>a</sup>	CIRAD-France	Continue with support from CIRAD

<sup>a</sup> Self-granted.

## Summary of programme activities in 2002

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status (as at October 2002)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Working Papers</b></li> <li>- Stabilization of upland agriculture under El Niño-induced climatic risk: impact assessment and mitigation measures in Malaysia (WP61)</li> <li>- Stabilization of upland agriculture under El Niño-induced climatic risk: impact assessment and mitigation measures in Indonesia (WP62)</li> <li>- Stabilization of upland agriculture under El Niño-induced climatic risk: impact assessment and mitigation measures in Thailand (WP63)</li> <li>▪ <b>Monographs</b></li> <li>- CGPRT feed crops supply/demand and potential/constraints for their expansion in South Asia: proceedings of a workshop held at Bogor, Indonesia, 3-4 September 2002 (tentative) (CG 42)</li> <li>- Coping with El Niño for stabilizing rainfed agriculture: lessons from Asia and the Pacific: proceedings of a joint workshop held at Cebu, Philippines, 17-19 September 2002 (CG 43)</li> <li>▪ <b>Others</b></li> <li>- <i>Palawija News</i> (vol. 19, No. 1, 2 and 3)</li> </ul>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>}       }  } Published</p> <p>}       }  } In preparation</p> <p>Published and distributed</p> </div>