



SPONSORSHIP REPORT: INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSE FOR COCONUT

DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

JULY 10, 2023

No: 108/NAMCSSTC/VII/2023

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1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter covers the purpose of NAM CSSTC writing a report about our sponsorship of participants attending the International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers.

1.1. Background of the International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers

The International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers is a training program jointly organized by the Coconut Research Institute of Sri Lanka (CRISL) and the International Coconut Community (ICC). It aims to provide systematic training in coconut cultivation and processing technologies to coconut extension officers, growers, and entrepreneurs from coconut-growing countries. The course has been conducted since 2018 and has trained participants from various countries around the world.

The Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC), an intergovernmental organization that promotes technical cooperation among developing countries in the South, provided scholarship for several participants to attend the training. The course covers a range of topics including breeding and improvement, organic fertilizer certification, pest and disease control, and capacity-building for extension workers.

The course for 2023 was held from June 18th to July 4th in Lunuwila, Sri Lanka. The training program serves as a platform for knowledge exchange and capacity-building in the coconut industry, aiming to enhance sustainable coconut cultivation practices and promote the development of coconut-based industries in participating countries.

1.2. Purpose of the sponsorship report

The purpose of NAM CSSTC writing a report about our sponsorship is to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of our funding on the training we supported. It allows NAM CSSTC to

assess the outcomes and benefits of our support, showcase our social responsibility, align our values with the beneficiaries, and build lasting relationships with potential partners.

A NAM CSSTC report includes information such as the objectives and outcomes of the sponsorship, activities and results of the sponsored training, lessons learned, challenges faced, and future plans for sustainability. Additionally, testimonials, stories, photos, or videos are included to illustrate the impact of the sponsorship.

By documenting the impact and effectiveness of our funding, NAM CSSTC can demonstrate the value of our investment, strengthen our reputation as socially responsible entities, and cultivate positive relationships with the organizations or events we support. The report serves as a tool for transparency, accountability, and ongoing collaboration between NAM CSSTC and beneficiaries.

2. OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

This chapter covers the “International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers” held at CRISL.

2.1. Description of the course objectives and curriculum

At the conclusion of the “International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers” held at the CRISL Campus from June 18th to July 4th, 2023, participants funded by NAM CSSTC will have practical knowledge and skills in at least three areas related to coconut development, as provided by CRISL. This knowledge and skills will equip participants to enhance productivity and outcomes within six months after completing the training, applicable to their roles as Coconut Development Officers in their organizations.

The curriculum includes various topics such as irrigation methods, identification of pests and diseases, pheromone synthesis and trap maintenance, value addition through coconut oil and virgin coconut oil processing, coconut sap/water processing, and machinery for coconut cultivation and processing. The program also includes a leisure tour to Pinnawala elephant orphanage and Kandy city, as well as a visit to NERD/Rex industries to explore coconut cultivation and processing machinery.

The training concludes with a graduation ceremony where certificates are awarded, marking the completion of the program. The participants are scheduled to depart on July 5th, 2023.

2.2. Duration and location of the course

The International Certificate Course on Coconut Development Officers' practical component, was held at the Coconut Research Institute of Sri Lanka (CRISL) from June 18th to July 4th, 2023. This training program is jointly organized by CRISL and the International Coconut Community (ICC) and conducted by CRISL.

Participant expected arrival date in Sri Lanka is June 17th, and the expected departure date is July 5th, 2023.

2.3. Target participants and their roles

The target participants for the International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers are the Action Coordinator in a coconut farmers group in New Caledonia and the Field Officer in a coconut farmers group in Indonesia. This training program, organized by the Coconut Research Institute of Sri Lanka (CRISL) and the International Coconut Community

(ICC), aims to provide systematic training in coconut cultivation and processing technologies to coconut extension officers, growers, and small and medium-scale entrepreneurs from coconut-growing countries.

The course is conducted face to face for a duration of 17 days. Each day of the practical session involves multiple lectures and hands-on activities, with duration of each lecture or activity varies depending on the topic and level of detail covered. The Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC) and the ICC sponsored participants attendance. The participants' roles are to actively learn, share, and implement the knowledge and technologies acquired during the course in their respective countries to contribute to the development of the coconut sector.

By participating in this training program, the Action Coordinator and Field Officer will gain valuable insights and practical skills that they can apply in their roles within the coconut farmers groups. They will be equipped with knowledge on systematic coconut cultivation, coconut-based processing technologies, and other relevant topics covered in the course. The aim is for them to enhance productivity and improve the quality of coconut-related activities in their respective regions.

3. SPONSORSHIP DETAILS

This chapter covers the benefits and details of sponsoring participant attendance at the training program.

3.1. Sponsorship justification and benefits

Sponsoring to support participants' attendance at a training program offers several justifications and benefits. Firstly, it increases brand awareness and exposure, allowing the NAM CSSTC to gain visibility and attract potential donors or partners. By showcasing our logo, name, and services, we create a positive impression among the attendees and a wider audience. Secondly, sponsorship provides access to a targeted audience interested in the industry or topic, enabling tailored messaging and potential global reach. It allows the NAM CSSTC to connect with individuals who have specific needs and preferences, increasing the chances of engagement and conversion.

Thirdly, sponsorship offers an excellent opportunity to showcase services. Sponsoring an event allows the NAM CSSTC to demonstrate our value proposition, competitive edge, and generate excitement around new offerings. We can provide samples, demos, or testimonials, creating a favorable impression and increasing the likelihood of development prospects.

Fourthly, sponsoring an event facilitates networking opportunities with other organisations and industry professionals. Collaborating with other sponsors, exhibitors, or speakers opens avenues for knowledge exchange, partnerships, and referrals, strengthening relationships and expanding the network.

Lastly, sponsoring an event contributes to building a positive reputation and credibility for the NAM CSSTC. By associating with an event aligned with our values or mission, we showcase our commitment, expertise, and social responsibility. This enhances our image as a leader or innovator in the industry, increasing trust and attracting stakeholders.

3.2. Sponsorship package and level of support provided

The package and support provided for participants attending the training program include the following:

- **Hotel Accommodation:** CRISL arrange hotel accommodation for the participants. The course fee covers half board hotel accommodation, including meals (lunch, morning/evening tea/coffee/refreshment) at the CRISL guest house.
- **Airport Pickup:** Participants are picked up from the airport and taken to their hotel upon arrival in Sri Lanka.
- **Local Transport:** Local transportation during the entire period of the practical course is provided.
- **Minor Expenses:** The course fee also covers other related minor expenses incurred during the training program.
- **Visa Support:** Participants use the official letter of invitation provided to obtain their visa for travel and stay in Sri Lanka. The processing of the visa application requires a copy of the participant's passport.

Participants are responsible for obtaining health insurance for the entire duration of their stay in Sri Lanka. While CRISL covers minor medical expenses, major medical expenses are not the responsibility of CRISL.

The course fee, airflight ticket, and allowance for invited participants are covered by the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC).

3.3. Estimated Duration of sponsorship program

The estimated duration of the International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers sponsorship program at NAM CSSTC is as follows:

- Document Analysis: 95.88 days
- Recruitment Implementation: 38 days
- Creating General Information Documents on the Condition of Sri Lanka: 0 days
- Training Preparation: 0 days
- Training Implementation: 14 days
- Training Assessment: 4 days
- Training Evaluation: 14 days
- Collection of Evaluation Data: 6 days
- Analysis of Evaluation Data: 4 days
- Reporting Evaluation Results: 4 days

The total estimated duration of the program, including document analysis, training implementation, and evaluation, is approximately 179.88 days.

4. PARTICIPANT SELECTION PROCESS

This chapter provides information about the selection process and participants for the 2023 training program.

4.1. Criteria for participant selection

The criteria for participants of the 2023 training program are based on their previous participation in virtual training in 2021 and their job titles, institutions, and cities. The selected participants sponsored by the NAM CSSTC include a Programme Officer from CAMBOHUN in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, a Coconut Volunteer from Friends of Coconut Indonesia in Indragiri Hilir, Indonesia, an Action Coordinator from Association Arbofruits in Kone, New Caledonia, and a Coconut Development Manager from Betrimex JSC in HCMC, Vietnam. These participants were chosen based on their active involvement in the coconut industry and their potential to contribute to its development. By targeting former participants, NAM CSSTC aims to build upon the knowledge and skills they gained during the previous training and provide them with further specialized training in the field of coconut development. This approach ensures that participants have a foundation of knowledge and experience in the subject matter, allowing them to maximize the benefits of the program and make meaningful contributions to the coconut industry in their respective regions. By sponsoring their participation, NAM CSSTC recognizes the value of their previous engagement and invests in their continuous professional growth and the advancement of the coconut sector.

4.2. Application and evaluation process

The process of participant selection and sponsorship for the training program involves ICC issuing a call for participants. NAM CSSTC then selects candidates from the list provided by ICC and sends them invitation letters. These letters request the candidates to confirm their attendance by returning a signed statement letter. The evaluation revealed that out of the four invitation letters sent, only two candidates responded and returned their signed letters, while the other two candidates remained unresponsive despite multiple reminders.

The process ensures a systematic approach, with ICC and NAM CSSTC collaborating to select and sponsor participants who can benefit from the training program. The invitation and commitment process allows NAM CSSTC to secure participants and make necessary arrangements for the training in Lunuwila, Sri Lanka.

However, the lack of response from the two unresponsive candidates raised concerns about their commitment and interest in attending. It is crucial for participants to communicate and confirm their attendance to facilitate effective planning and resource allocation. The evaluation emphasized the importance of clear communication and timely responsiveness.

In future evaluations, implementing a robust communication strategy, such as additional reminders or alternative channels like phone calls, could improve response rates and minimize instances of candidates going AWOL without justification.

4.3. Number of participants sponsored

As of the end of the sponsorship process before departure to Sri Lanka, a total of two participants have been sponsored by the NAM CSSTC for the training program. These individuals have received support from the NAM CSSTC to attend the training and benefit from the learning opportunities provided.

To obtain information about the total number of attendees for the training, including participants who attended through individual cost or sponsorship by ICC, it is recommended to contact ICC directly. They can be reached at icc@coconutcommunity.org. ICC will have the most up-to-date and accurate information regarding the overall attendance for the training program.

5. SPONSORED PARTICIPANT PROFILES

This chapter provides information about the nominations of Elise Cazal and Burhanuddin Rafik for the INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSE FOR COCONUT DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS.

5.1. Background and experience of each sponsored participant

Elise Cazal, an Action Coordinator from Association ARBOFRUITS in New Caledonia, has been nominated for the INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSE FOR COCONUT DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS. The nomination is based on her role in supporting the implementation of a coconut palm action plan proposed by Arbofruits to the New Caledonian provincial institutions. By attending the training program, Elise aims to acquire knowledge and skills on coconut trees to effectively implement the plan and address the recent decline in copra

production. Burhanuddin Rafik, a Volunteer (field officer) from Indonesia Friends of Coconut, has also been nominated for the same training program. Burhan is actively involved in raising public awareness about the importance of coconuts and managing coconut farms in Riau Sumatra. The training aligns with his responsibilities and the need to enhance his skills, productivity, and knowledge of best practices in coconut development. Both nominees have obtained approval from their supervisors and provided their personal and travel information. The total number of participants sponsored for the training program before departure to Sri Lanka are two people.

5.2. Relevance of their roles and responsibilities to the course

The role of an Action Coordinator and Volunteer (field officer) in the International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers are highly relevant in promoting and implementing the knowledge and skills gained from the training. The course focuses on systematic coconut cultivation and coconut-based processing technologies, providing participants with the necessary expertise to address challenges in the coconut sector and contribute to its development. As an Action Coordinator, the individual is responsible for supporting the implementation of a coconut palm action plan in their respective country or institution, while a Volunteer (field officer) aims to apply the acquired knowledge to improve coconut farming practices and promote good agricultural practices. Both roles align with the course objectives of developing new skills, enhancing productivity and performance, increasing knowledge of best practices, and fostering collaboration. By attending the training program, participants have the opportunity to learn from experts, exchange experiences with other participants, and gain exposure to new technologies

and tools. Ultimately, their involvement in the course enables them to make a meaningful impact in their local coconut industry and contribute to the sustainable development of the sector.

6. PARTICIPANT PREPARATION

This chapter covers the support provided by NAM CSSTC to participants before the course.

6.1. Pre-course training and orientation provided to sponsored participants

NAM CSSTC distributed a travel guide document to sponsored participants. The travel guide document provides information about the orientation of Lunuwila, a destination known for its tranquility and coconut paradise. It covers various aspects to help participants navigate the area effectively.

The document starts with a welcome to Lunuwila, highlighting its popularity among tourists and its unique blend of history, culture, and modernity. It then moves on to describe the location, geography, and topography of Lunuwila, emphasizing its distinctive natural features and landmarks.

The cultural heritage of Lunuwila is explored, discussing its significance and historical background. Notable historical events or eras that have shaped Lunuwila's identity are mentioned, along with famous landmarks, museums, or cultural sites worth exploring.

The guide also highlights the quiet and rural life in Lunuwila, emphasizing its serene atmosphere and peaceful retreat away from the city. It mentions local cuisine, shopping districts, entertainment options, as well as popular festivals, events, or traditions celebrated in the area.

Lunuwila's modern infrastructure and facilities are described, including its well-developed transportation networks, accommodation options suited for different budgets, and notable amenities that cater to participants' needs.

The section on locals and language provides insights into the local community, prevalent languages spoken, common phrases or greetings, and tips for effective communication, considering potential language barriers.

Safety and security information is also included, providing details about Lunuwila's safety measures, precautions or guidelines for participants, and contact information for emergency services or helplines.

6.2. Support and resources provided for travel arrangements and logistics

For travel arrangements and logistics, NAM CSSTC took charge of booking and issuing flight tickets for the participants. However, due to last-minute technical issues from the airlines, the tickets were canceled. NAM CSSTC provided support to assist the participants in rebooking their tickets.

Additionally, NAM CSSTC helped coordinate the participants' arrival information in Sri Lanka, ensuring that they would be picked up by the local committees upon arrival. They also facilitated the visa process for the participants and filled out the online arrival cards on their behalf.

CRISL, on the other hand, arranged the hotel accommodation for the participants. Upon arrival at the airport, the participants were picked up and transported to their respective hotels.

7. COURSE HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The chapter is a summary of the achievements, outcomes, testimonials, and feedback from participants who took the comprehensive course on coconut cultivation.

7.1. Overview of the course activities, topics, and workshops

The program includes a comprehensive set of chapters and annexes that cover a wide range of activities, topics, and workshops. Participants delve into subjects such as the biology and eco-physiological requirements of coconut palm (Chapter 01), the development of inflorescence and factors affecting fruit set and yield fluctuation (Chapter 02), coconut breeding (Chapter 03), production of improved coconut cultivars (Chapter 04), and the utilization and conservation of coconut genetic resources (Chapter 05).

Other chapters focus on practical aspects of coconut cultivation, including the establishment and management of coconut nurseries (Chapter 06), rejuvenation of coconut plantations (Chapter 07), and the management of young coconut plantations (Chapter 08). Participants also gain knowledge about soil characteristics and land suitability assessment for coconut (Chapter 09), essential plant nutrients and fertilizer sources (Chapter 10), and nutrient deficiencies and remedial measures (Chapter 12).

The program addresses various aspects of coconut production and management, including intercropping (Chapter 13), livestock management (Chapter 14), soil conservation (Chapter 15), soil moisture conservation (Chapter 16), irrigation (Chapter 17), weed management (Chapter 18), pests (Chapter 19), and diseases affecting coconut palms (Chapter 20). Additionally, participants learn about coconut processing technologies (Chapter 21), the

socioeconomics of coconut production (Chapter 22), project analysis (Chapter 23), and technology transfer in the coconut sector (Chapter 24).

The program also includes two annexes: Annex 01 provides a practical guide for coconut processing, and Annex 02 introduces the teaching staff involved in delivering the workshops and sessions. With this comprehensive curriculum, participants expect to gain a thorough understanding of coconut production, cultivation techniques, and related topics, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary for effective coconut farming and management.

7.2. Major achievements and outcomes of the course

Based on the provided feedback, participants in the course have achieved significant outcomes and expressed satisfaction with the program. Burhanuddin found value in the topic of mother palm and seed selection and believes the course aligns well with their goals. He plans to apply the knowledge to their plantation, particularly in seedling and natural pollination. Elise rated the course positively and found the topic of seed garden/nursery establishment valuable. She now has the information needed for implementing coconut grove replanting and setting up tree nurseries in New Caledonia. Despite the challenge of understanding a speaker with a strong accent, she feels supported and confident in applying the course content.

Burhanuddin highly appreciated the topics of soil and fertilizer management, as well as intercropping, recognizing the importance of the information provided. He intends to implement soil management techniques and use coir near coconut trees. Elise found the topics of suitable intercrops and intercropping models valuable and plans to develop intercropping to increase incomes in their region. She praised the course's organization and attentive trainers.

Burhanuddin expressed satisfaction with the topic of integrated pest management and intends to apply the knowledge to their old plantation, particularly in biological pest and disease control.

Elise found value in the topic of pests and diseases, gaining the ability to detect symptoms and take appropriate measures. She believes this knowledge will help prevent serious consequences for the coconut industry in New Caledonia.

7.3. Testimonials or feedback from sponsored participants

The testimonials and feedback from the participants highlight their overall positive experiences and the value they derived from the course:

- Burhanuddin expressed satisfaction with the course, rating it as “excellence.” He affirmed his intention to apply the knowledge gained to their plantation and specifically mentioned receiving excellent information from the instructor.
- CAZAL Elise found the information provided clear and mentioned that field application helped in understanding. She also appreciated the support received when a speaker’s strong accent and fast speech made comprehension difficult, but another speaker ensured her understanding.
- Burhanuddin acknowledged the importance of the information received, particularly regarding soil management and intercropping. He also highlighted the challenge of implementing the knowledge on their plantation.
- CAZAL Elise expressed the desire to develop intercropping for increasing producers’ incomes. She found the examples of intercropping provided in the course valuable and praised the organization and attentiveness of the trainers.

- Burhanuddin found the course content to be in line with his expectations. He planned to apply the knowledge gained, specifically mentioning the application of biological pest and disease control. He also suggested allocating more time for explaining the course and practical aspects in the field.
- CAZAL Elise stated that she acquired knowledge about pests and diseases of coconut palms, enabling her to detect symptoms and treat them, potentially avoiding detrimental consequences for the coconut industry in New Caledonia.

8. FUTURE PLANS AND UTILIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE

The chapter describes the post-course action plans of Burhanuddin and Elise, their potential benefits to NAM CSSTC, and the collaboration opportunities with partners in Indonesia and New Caledonia.

8.1. Action plans of sponsored participants after completing the course

Burhanuddin:

- Implement the gained knowledge on his plantation, focusing on soil management, intercropping, and biological pest and disease control.
- Provide practical guidelines and resources to support the implementation process and address specific plantation needs and challenges.
- Facilitate collaboration and knowledge sharing with other participants to enhance the effectiveness of implementation efforts.
- Offer continuous learning opportunities, keeping Burhanuddin updated on new developments and providing access to additional resources for further skill enhancement.

CAZAL Elise:

- Support Elise in developing intercropping to increase producers' incomes, offering guidance on intercropping models, suitable crops, and implementation strategies.
- Facilitate networking and collaboration with other participants interested in intercropping, creating a supportive platform for sharing experiences and ideas.
- Provide resources and training on effective pest and disease management for coconut palms.
- Offer ongoing support and mentorship, addressing Elise's questions and challenges during the implementation phase.
- Establish a monitoring mechanism to evaluate Elise's progress in intercropping development and pest management, providing feedback and suggestions for improvement.

By following these action plans, Burhanuddin and Elise can effectively apply their course knowledge, overcome challenges, and achieve their goals in coconut cultivation, intercropping, and pest management.

8.2. Potential benefits to the NAM CSSTC

By sponsoring Burhanuddin, we will:

- Support his professional development and enable him to apply the latest knowledge and best practices in sustainable coconut cultivation on his plantation.
- Contribute to environmental sustainability and the well-being of the local community through Burhanuddin's sharing of skills and knowledge with other farmers.
- Demonstrate our commitment to social responsibility and environmental stewardship, enhancing our brand image and reputation among customers and stakeholders.

- Gain valuable insights from Burhanuddin's experience and evaluation of the training program, helping us improve our own practices and policies.

By sponsoring Elise, we will:

- Contribute to Elise's professional growth and empower her to diversify her income sources through intercropping, leading to improved soil health and increased biodiversity.
- Provide Elise with access to a supportive network of peers and experts who can assist in implementing intercropping practices and offer valuable learning opportunities.
- Enhance Elise's productivity and profitability by equipping her with knowledge and resources to effectively manage pests and diseases in her coconut palms.
- Build a long-term relationship with Elise, offering ongoing guidance, mentorship, and monitoring of her progress and impact.
- Acquire valuable insights and knowledge from Elise's intercropping and pest management practices, enabling you to make informed decisions and drive innovation.

These sponsorships offer tangible benefits to both Burhanuddin and Elise while also contributing to sustainable agriculture, community development, and NAM CSSTC's reputation.

8.3. Collaboration opportunities and follow-up activities

Collaboration opportunities with potential partners in Indonesia and New Caledonia offer avenues for professional development, economic empowerment, pest management, long-term guidance, and innovation in sustainable coconut cultivation and intercropping. To maximize the potential benefits, follow-up activities are crucial.

With the Indonesian Center Research and Development for Estate Crops (ICRDEC), two follow-up activities can be pursued. Firstly, a joint research project focused on sustainable coconut cultivation practices can be undertaken. This project would involve field experiments, data collection, and knowledge sharing to advance coconut productivity and quality. Secondly, organizing a training workshop in collaboration with ICRDEC can disseminate the latest advancements in coconut cultivation to empower farmers with practical knowledge and skills, ultimately enhancing productivity and income.

Olenex, a company involved in coconut oil processing, presents collaboration opportunities in Indonesia. A farmer exchange program can be established where Indonesian farmers visit European coconut farms to learn advanced processing techniques and sustainable production practices. Additionally, collaborating with Olenex on a sustainable plantation initiative can involve replanting old coconut trees and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. This initiative can include training sessions, support for farmers in adopting sustainable techniques, and monitoring environmental impact.

In New Caledonia, potential partners like the Asian Journal of Plant Sciences and SpringerLink offer collaboration possibilities. Organizing a knowledge exchange symposium would bring together experts, researchers, and practitioners from both Indonesia and New Caledonia to share experiences, research findings, and best practices in coconut cultivation and intercropping. Furthermore, collaborating with these partners to publish joint research articles or book chapters can provide insights into the benefits and challenges of intercropping maize and coconuts, offering recommendations for farmers and policymakers.

By implementing these follow-up activities, continued engagement, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among partners will be fostered. This, in turn, will contribute to the long-term success and impact of sustainable coconut cultivation and intercropping initiatives.

9. CONCLUSION

9.1. Summary of the sponsorship report

The International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers, supported by NAM CSSTC, enhances sustainable coconut cultivation and promotes coconut-based industries. NAM CSSTC sponsors participants who actively engage in the coconut industry and show potential for development. The course covers various topics and equips participants with practical knowledge and skills. NAM CSSTC benefits from increased brand awareness and stakeholder engagement. Participants like Elise and Burhanuddin have action plans to apply their knowledge, promote collaboration, and drive positive change in their fields. Collaboration opportunities with partners in Indonesia and New Caledonia offer avenues for research, training, and knowledge exchange. Follow-up activities foster long-term success and innovation in sustainable coconut cultivation.

9.2. Acknowledgment

NAM CSSTC expresses gratitude to the donor country, Indonesia, for their consistent annual contributions to the operations of NAM CSSTC. The NAM CSSTC acknowledges the support received from the Consulate General of Indonesia in Noumea for assisting in locating Elise, a highly engaged individual with a strong interest in capacity-building activities related to coconut.

Appreciation is extended to ICC for their unwavering commitment to the signed agreement, which has facilitated a multi-year collaboration between the two organizations since

2020. NAM CSSTC values the partnership and recognizes the importance of working together to achieve common objectives.

Furthermore, NAM CSSTC acknowledges and appreciates the expertise of CRI Sri Lanka and its staff members in providing international-scale knowledge on coconut development. Their contributions have been instrumental in imparting valuable information and skills to the participants of the program.

9.3. Future recommendations and next steps

Based on the feedback provided, here are some recommendations and next steps to consider:

- Extend the duration of the course: Allocate more time for in-depth explanations of concepts and practices to ensure participants have a comprehensive understanding of the topics covered.
- Provide diverse examples of intercropping systems: Include a range of intercropping models suitable for different contexts and climates, along with an explanation of their benefits and challenges. This will broaden participants' knowledge and enable them to select appropriate intercropping methods for their specific situations.
- Invite speakers with diverse backgrounds: Bring in experts and practitioners from various fields related to coconut production and management. Their diverse experiences and perspectives will enrich the learning experience and provide participants with a broader understanding of the industry.

- **Foster interaction and discussion:** Create more opportunities for participants to engage with each other, as well as with trainers and speakers. Facilitate group discussions, workshops, and networking sessions to encourage the exchange of ideas, experiences, and best practices.
- **Provide additional support materials:** Offer supplementary resources such as handouts, videos, or online materials that participants can access after the course. These materials will serve as references for further learning and reinforce the knowledge and skills gained during the training.

Next steps:

- **Collaborate with potential partners:** Explore collaboration opportunities with organizations such as the Indonesian Center Research and Development for Estate Crops (ICRDEC) and Olenex in Indonesia, as well as the Asian Journal of Plant Sciences and SpringerLink in New Caledonia. This could involve joint research projects, training workshops, knowledge exchange symposiums, and publication collaborations to further advance sustainable coconut cultivation and intercropping.
- **Plan follow-up activities:** Develop a detailed plan for follow-up activities, taking into account the specific goals and objectives of each collaboration. This may include conducting joint research, organizing training workshops, facilitating knowledge sharing platforms, and implementing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the impact of the training program.
- **Evaluate and incorporate participant feedback:** Continuously gather feedback from participants to assess the effectiveness of the training program and identify areas for

improvement. Use this feedback to refine the curriculum, teaching methodologies, and logistics for future iterations of the course.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION
INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSE FOR COCONUT DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
SRI LANKA, 19TH JUNE – 4TH JULY 2023





GRADUATION CEREMONY
INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSE FOR COCONUT DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
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