
Corporate Plan (2009 -2013)



Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI)

114, Wijerama Mawatha , Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.

Table of Contents

Corporate Plan (2009 -2013	1
Introduction	3
Mandatory Functions.....	3
Organizational Structure.....	3
Vision.....	4
Mission.....	4
Goals	4
Objectives.....	4
Strategies	5
Action Plan - 2010.....	6
Research Studies - 2010.....	6
Training Programmes 2010.....	6
Action Plan - 2011.....	7
Research Studies - 2011.....	7
Training Programmes - 2011.....	7
Action Plan – 2012	8
Research Studies - 2012.....	8
Training Programmes - 2012.....	8
Action Plan – 2013	9
Research Studies - 2013.....	9
Training Programmes - 2013.....	9

Introduction

The Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI) was established in 1972 under the Act NO. 05 of 1972. It functions as a statutory body under the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Services. It was established mainly for the promotion of policy oriented research and training needs of the agrarian and rural sector. Being a pioneer of agrarian research in the country, HARTI has rich experience spanning over thirty five years, in conducting socio-economic research, training and formulation of agrarian sector development policies since its establishment in 1972.

Mandatory Functions

Under the provisions of section 3 (1) of the Agrarian Research and Training Institute Act No. 5 of 1972, the general objects mandated on the institution are as follows:

- a. To foster, assist, encourage and cooperate in agrarian research;
- b. To co-ordinate agrarian research undertaken by government departments, local authorities, public corporations and other institutions;
- c. To carry out investigations and research relating to institutional factors affecting the development of agriculture;
- d. To undertake investigations, research and studies relating to economic use of land for agricultural purposes;
- e. To carry out socio-economic research relating to agricultural and rural development;
- f. To provide or implement training activities and programmes relating to agrarian research either alone or in association with other institutions in Sri Lanka or abroad and to award diplomas, degrees, prizes and distinctions in connection therewith;
- g. To sponsor and hold conferences, seminars, and workshops at local regional and International levels;
- h. To carry out such research relating to problems of agrarian structure in co-operation with Asian countries in order to serve their regional needs and provide a centre for the collection and dissemination of information on agrarian problems; and
- i. To relate such research to problems connected with agrarian development and modernization with special reference to Sri Lanka and other Asian countries in general.

Organizational Structure

The institute is administered by a Board of Governors that includes representatives from various Ministries, Departments and other Organizations concerned with the development of the rural agrarian sector in the country. The Secretary of the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Services serves as the Chairman of the Board. The Board of Governors is responsible for the overall policy matters of the institute. The Director acts as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in the Institute. The Deputy Director (Research) and the Registrar assist the Director to manage research and training activities and administrative work respectively.

The research and training activities are organized under four divisions which were established based on current interested subject areas. However the multi disciplinary research teams selected from various divisions carry out most of the research and training work. The research and training divisions of the institute are given below:

- (1) Agricultural Policy and Project Evaluation Division (APPE),
- (2) Environmental and Water Resources Management Division (EWRM),
- (3) Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division (MFPA),
- (4) Human Resources and Institutional Development Division (HRID)

Each division is headed by a senior Research Officer who is responsible for administrative activities and the overall co-ordination of activities of the respective division. Researchers and the supporting staff attached to the division assist the Head of the division to implement the division's plan.

Administrative Division headed by the Registrar carries out administrative activities of the institute. In addition, there are two supporting units: 1) Statistical and Data Processing (SDP) Unit and 2) the Publication Unit to undertake data processing and documentation respectively. In addition, the SDP Unit maintains agricultural data base for compiling data from various sources in order to provide data under one roof. The institute has a well equipped library in the field of agrarian development.

Vision

Be the leader for generating and disseminating knowledge for sustainable agrarian and rural development

Mission

To strengthen agrarian and rural sector through conducting research & training activities

Goals

1. Make policy process more effective through knowledge generation and timely dissemination;
2. Increase the capacity of rural development stake holders through training;
3. Design the rural development models through action research;
4. Provide the market intelligence for stakeholders in the supply chain;
5. Improve the resource management of the institute

Objectives

- To collect, analyze and disseminate market information to policy makers, farmers and traders;
- To undertake research on marketing issues;
- To carry out research on consumer behaviour;
- To evaluate government development programmes;
- To assess impact of agrarian and rural development projects and programmes;
- To conduct surveys to establish benchmark conditions;
- To review and analyze agricultural policies;
- To conduct feasibility studies on proposed development projects;
- To undertake research on input supply and support services;
- To conduct research on water resources management and irrigated agriculture;
- To study environmental and natural resources management issues;
- To undertake research on irrigation institutions and institutional policies;
- To organize and conduct training programmes/workshops/seminars based on national priorities;
- To cater to the outside demands by undertaking training programmes on specific subjects;
- To provide services of experts to the training programmes organized by outside agencies;
- To improve library facilities and audio visual resources;
- To strengthen use of information technology for dissemination of research findings;
- To develop competency of human resource;
- To develop other resources;
- To recruit new staff as per needs

Strategies

01. Strengthen the Research and Training Committee (RTC);
02. Restructure the divisions based on thematic areas;
03. Ensure uniformity of different types of publications – layout, cover page, pagination, fonts and styles;
04. Improve literature review in preparation of research proposal;
05. Arrange external review after peer review of all research reports before publication;
06. Assign the responsibility for each issue of the institute journal to the respective division;
07. Obtain donor assistance to secure the services of a professional editor;
08. Increase research outputs in local languages;
09. Identify need for recruitment
10. Explore possibility of getting research expatriates through the UNDP;
11. Establish linkages with universities;
12. Disseminate research findings at the end of the year colloquium;
13. Introduce measurable performance based evaluation system;
14. Organize faculty retreat;
15. Improve the quality of the printing of the publications.
16. Identify training need to strengthen productivity of employees
17. Improve the institute building/hostel facilities

Action Plan - 2010

Research Studies - 2010

No	Title	Estimated Budget
1	Market information project	2,10,0000
2	Impact of ICT based agricultural extension on farming sector	435,000
3	Impact of mechanization in paddy sector on rural labour market	600,000
4	Seed Production and Marketing in Sri Lanka	700,000
5	Farmer Participation in Irrigation System Management: Achievements and Drawbacks	710,000
6	Critical examination of share cropping in paddy farming	510,000
7	Evaluation of self employment programme in polonnaruwa	164,000
8	Development of fruit crop sector	400,000
9	Factors affecting the determination of marketed surplus and storage decisions by paddy farmers in major producing areas	1,00,000
10	Agri-food supply chain management: issues and challenges	700.,000
11	Land degradation: A review of concepts and definitions	
12	Eco-friendly farming in Sri Lanka	
13	Land fragmentation in Settlement Schemes.	620,000
14	Assessment on rural financial market	200,000
15	Assessment of Solar power micro irrigation project implemented by Ministry of Agriculture	600,000

Training Programmes 2010

No	Title	Estimated Budget
1	Training Programme on application of participatory techniques (RRA, PRA, and PCM) for planning and management of rural/community development project (04 Programmes)	500,000
2	Training Programme on social mobilization (04 programmes)	500,000
3	Training Programme on marketing extension (03 Programmes)	550,000
4	Workshop on newly elected members of Parliament	250,000
5	Farmer convention	160,000
6	Research Symposium	50,000

Action Plan - 2011

Research Studies - 2011

No.	Title	Objectives	Estimated Budget (Rs.)
01	An Evaluation of Gama Neguma programme	Assess the effects and impacts of the programme on living condition of the rural people	1,000,000
02	Poverty and inequality with special reference to administrative units	Study the spatial diversity of poverty and inequality among districts with underline causes	1,000,000
03	Production and marketing of organic food items: potentialities and possibilities	Identify the market potential for organic foods	1,400,000
04	Economic analysis of profitability in maize, banana and sugarcane cultivation in major producer areas	Analyze competitive profitability of these crops	1,400,000
05	Economics of post harvest losses of paddy/rice and subsidiary food crops	Identify policy measures for reduction of losses	1,400,000
06	An analysis of marketing costs and margins of other field crops	Examine the marketing efficiency	1,200,000
07	Impact of Drip Irrigation on Productivity of Perennial Crops	Assess the Problems and prospects of drip irrigation in improving the productivity of perennial crops	800,000
08	Climate change and agriculture in anicut systems: Impacts, vulnerability and adaptation in Walawe basin	Identify the degree of climate change impacts in small irrigation schemes and draw recommendations for suitable adaptation strategies	600,000
09	The State of food retailing system in Sri Lanka	Identify the recent developments and implications on producers and consumers	1,000,000
10	Remote Sensing: An Application to the market information system	To improve the marketing Statistics	1,000,000
11	Structure, conduct and performance of rice milling industry	Examine organization and operation of the rice milling industry	1,600,000

Training Programmes - 2011

No.	Title	Objectives	Estimated Budget (Rs.)
01	Training of farmer leaders on strengthening of farmer organizations (02 programmes)	Develop knowledge and skills of farmer leaders on strengthening of farmer organization	1,400,000
02	Training Programme on entrepreneurship development (02 programmes)	Improve knowledge and skill of small scale entrepreneurs on entrepreneurship development	1,600,000
03	Training Programme of marketing extension (02 programmes)	Enhance the knowledge of extension staff on marketing extension	1,400,000

Action Plan - 2012

Research Studies - 2012

No.	Title	Objectives	Estimated Budget (Rs.)
01	Potentials and constraints of commercialization of dairy farming	Examine the possibilities and constraints in commercialization of dairy farming in the country	900,000
02	Analysis of yield gap in the smallholder farming sector	Identify factors influencing yield differences of major food crops	1,900,000
03	Agricultural policy analysis	Study impact of policies on agricultural development	2,000,000
04	Study on developing sustainable mechanisms to link rural producers with global markets	Do experiments for evolving viable organizational methods to link village producers with global markets	1,000,000
05	Improving food marketing system: competitiveness, forces of changes and challenges for future	Review the operation of food marketing system	1,400,000
06	An Analysis of marketing costs and margins of paddy/rice sector	Examine the marketing efficiency	1,400,000
07	Impact of climate changes on food production and marketing system	Identify the policy measures for improving the food marketing system	1,500,000
08	The new institutional economics: application for agricultural policy research in Sri Lanka	Analyze the potential contribution of New institutional economics to agricultural marketing	1,400,000
09	Impacts of drip irrigation on productivity of perennial crops in Sri Lanka.	Conduct economic appraisal and social economic impact of use of drip irrigation on tea, coconut and other selected perennial crops	800,000
10	Institutional issues in using groundwater for different sectors	Analyze the institutional and policy issues in using groundwater for different sectors	800,000

Training Programmes - 2012

No.	Title	Objectives	Estimated Budget (Rs.)
01	Training Programme on application of participatory techniques (RRA, PRA, and PCM) for planning and management of rural/community development project (02 Programmes)	Educate the participants about the value of people's participation in terms of local level planning and development	1,800,000
02	Training Programme on organizational management (02 programmes)	Enhance the knowledge of Development Officers of ASCS on Management Skills	1,400,000
03	Training Programme on entrepreneurship development (02 programmes)	Improve knowledge and skill of small scale entrepreneurs on entrepreneurship development	1,800,000
04	Training Programme on marketing extension (02 programmes)	Enhance the knowledge of extension staff on marketing extension	1,400,000

Action Plan - 2013

Research Studies - 2013

No.	Title	Objectives	Estimated Budget (Rs.)
01	Impact of globalization on agriculture	Examine the adverse effect of globalization on agriculture and suggest remedial measures	1,500,000
02	Pricing structures and marketing systems of egg and fish in Sri Lanka	Identify and analyze price behavior and marketing characteristics in the industry	1,600,000
03	An Economic assessment of packaging of agricultural commodities	Improve the existing systems in agricultural commodity markets	1,600,000
04	Domestic value chains of fresh fruits and vegetables marketing system	Review and analyze the existing value chains and make suggestions for improvement	1,800,000
05	Factors affecting marketable surplus and storage decisions of paddy in major producing areas	Identify and analyze factors affecting determination of surplus and storages decisions	1,600,000
06	Relationship between soil erosion and socio economic factors in upland farming	Analyze the relationship between level of soil erosion, socio-economic causes and the impact of household income	1,100,000
07	A Socio-economic perspective of past irrigation rehabilitation projects with special reference to NIRP and ISMP	Study the performance of past irrigation rehabilitation projects and the lessons learned from hardware and software developments	1,200,000

Training Programmes - 2013

No.	Title	Objectives	Estimated Budget (Rs.)
01	Training Programme on entrepreneurship development (02 programmes)	Improve knowledge and skill of small scale entrepreneurs on entrepreneurship development	1,800,000
02	Training Programme on marketing extension (02 programmes)	Enhance the knowledge of extension staff on marketing extension	1,800,000
03	Training Programme on social mobilization (02 programmes)	Enhance social cartelists' knowledge and skills on social methodologies to carry out the development programmes at the local level	1,800,000