

Seeding the Green Future: Covid-19 Pandemic Contingency Planning Meeting - Outcomes and Action Plan SGF (2020-2021) season

Date: 25th March 2020

Time: 05:00 PM to 07:00 PM (IST)

In the face of the current pandemic, FiBL's first priority is to take care of its employees, associates, partners and ensure the safety of other stakeholders. At the same time, considering the urgency, the more important it is for us to stay in control, be organized and orchestrate our crisis management carefully. This will take considerable efforts, resources and most importantly, contingency planning for our ongoing projects and programs in India.

To further deliberate on the challenges posed by the coronavirus, its short-term and long-term consequences, as well as mitigation measures a Pandemic Contingency Planning meeting (online) was organized by Project Leader and Country Coordinator- India for seeding the Green Future (SGF) Program, India.

This meeting was attended by the representative from implementing partners including ASA, CC, CSA, FFID-Chetna, PDKV, PSL and RVSKVV.

Key Outcomes:

- I. All the SGF partners will prepare and share their respective 'Pandemic Contingency Plan' for upcoming season SGF (2020-2021).
- II. Due, to delay in receipt of data on Fiber Parameters from testing lab (ATIRA), all 20 cultivars tested in CET, SGF (2019-20) season will be considered for sowing in upcoming season.
- III. In addition to 20 cultivars screened in 2019-2020, all the SGF partners shall recommend and contribute promising cultivars for screening in CET (2020-21) season. The target will be to add at least 10 more cultivars to the existing list of 20 cultivars, to make it up to 30 cultivars for screening in upcoming season.
- IV. SGF partners are free to carry out separate evaluation trials for 20 cultivars with 3 replications and other CET with 10 new cultivars in 3 replications. Partners may also choose to carry out CET with 30 cultivars in 2 replications using same checks. However, these decisions shall be taken by the respective partners depending on the availability of land and resources.
- V. All the SGF partners are responsible for arranging their own seeds for upcoming trials. However, promoting mutual cooperation during ongoing crisis each partner in advance, will advise on the seed quantity available for these 20 cultivars, as well as for the new cultivars they recommend to be included in CET (2020-21) season. A draft sheet is attached to complete the required information.
- VI. The availability of hybrids of private seed companies and checks including, Namaskar Gold 01, Mallika, Bhakti-245, Raja-954, Nirmal-996, Daftari Vaibhav and Suraj shall be explored by SGF partners, at all the times.

- VII. SGF partners responsible for carrying out Baby and Pilot trials (ASA, Chetana, Pratibha, CSA and CottonConnect) will identify the proactive and interested farmers, make arrangement with them well in advance, to ensure good representative number of on-farm trials are established in upcoming season with least risk of trial failure.
- VIII. SGF partners are required to submit a tentative list of number of baby and pilot trials anticipated for season 2020-2021 at different locations.
- IX. SGF partners must proactively prepare financial reports/utilization certificate for 2019-2020 season to pace up the developments for upcoming season and timely release of funds.
- X. A pre-season strategy meeting will be organized as soon as the present situation improves.
- XI. External project evaluation of SGF is foreseen in the month of September which will include; visit to trial sites, partners office, financial audits and brief stakeholders meeting. The further details will be shared in the time to come.
- XII. A follow up meeting will be organized to review further development in current situation and decide further course of action. The schedule of the next meeting will be communicated soon.

Urgent Actions Points:

- Submission of Contingency plan by SGF partners by 6 April 2020
- List of new cultivars to be evaluated during upcoming season by 20 April 2020
- Quantity of seed available for old and new cultivars for CET by 20 April 2020
- Tentative list of on-farm baby and pilot trials for 2020-21 by 20 April 2020
- Financial reporting of SGF 2019-2020 Season by 27 April 2020

Senior management team is requested to ensure strong organization and mobilization of ground team to able them enough to respond professionally and timely to the points.

We appreciate your time and continued support. Thank you and keep safe.



(Project Leader)



(Country Coordinator-India)