

Online EDP for Master Trainers in Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) concluded at ICAR-NAARM

NAARM organized an Online EDP on “**ABS Regulations and Nagoya Protocol**” during 15 & 17, 2020 through Video Conferencing in collaboration with UNDP and Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL), New Delhi. Over 30 scientists representing various regions and crops from NARES were selected from among the participants of the earlier training on “ABS implementation in India” conducted by the Academy. Dr. VB. Mathur, Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai; Dr. Ruchi Pant, Head, NRM and Biodiversity, UNDP and Dr. Vibha Ahuja, Chief General Manager, BCIL, during their interaction with the participants, assured all support in their efforts to sensitize the concept among their peers in the region. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM, during his inaugural address, informed that ABS concepts will be integrated in relevant capacity building programs of the Academy. He invited the participants to contact NAARM for any support for designing/organizing the ABS sensitization programs.



Clock-wise from Top Left: Dr. Srinivasa Rao, Dr. VB. Mathur, Dr. Ruchi Pant, Dr Alejandro Lago, Dr. Matthew Daas, Dr. Vibha Ahuja and Dr. SK. Soam interacting with the participants

Dr. Alejandro Lago, Project Manager, UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project provided an overview of ABS, CBD and Nagoya Protocol. The ABS Clearing House Mechanism under the Nagoya Protocol was explained by Dr. Matthew Daas, Programme Officer, CBD, Montreal. Dr. Vibha Ahuja from BCIL highlighted the ABS potential of Indian Biotech research sector. The ABS regulations in the context of IPR, TRIPS and WTO were elucidated by Dr. SK. Soam, Joint Director, NAARM. Dr. K.S. Varaprasad, Senior Consultant, UNDP anchored an interactive session with the participants along with the Course Directors. The participants were provided hands-on demonstration on using the NBA’s online application for ABS filing. The EDP was coordinated by Dr. K. Kareemulla, Dr. P. Krishnan and Dr. B. Ganesh Kumar from NAARM.