

## Delegates of Bhutan, Bangladesh & Nepal visits a-IDEA, ICAR-NAARM

*Date: 26 April 2024*

Under International Exchange Program of FAO & ICAR (Asia - Africa South Cooperation) in millet value chain, ICAR-Indian Institute of Millet Research (ICAR-IIMR) organized an Exposure Visit to the participants of “International Workshop on Millets Production, Processing, and Value Chain Development” to a-IDEA, ICAR-NAARM today. The delegates belonging to Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal applauded the efforts taken by ICAR in general and ICAR-NAARM in Particular about the various initiatives taken by a-IDEA in favor of promoting agri and agri-tech startups. The officials of ICAR-NAARM & a-IDEA supported startups interacted with visiting delegation of participating countries. The visit was made for understanding the activities of a-IDEA besides knowing about business incubation and exploring opportunities for possible collaborations.



At the very outset, Dr. A. Dhandapani, Head, Information and Communication Management, ICAR-NAARM briefed the delegates about ICAR-NAARM and handled the session on Basic Principles of Field Experimentation & Statistical Tools.

Dr. N.A.Vijay Avinashilingam, Additional CEO, a-IDEA, ICAR-NAARM emphasized the various programs and initiatives taken by a-IDEA by citing examples of startups in various domains in the field of agriculture and allied sectors that have brought prosperity to farmers.

Discussion also seen few a-IDEA start-ups interacting with the visiting delegates and appraising them about existing business model and the products. The delegates also visited a-IDEA and seen the existing incubation facilities, prototype models etc. At the end, Dr. B. Ganesh Kumar, Principal Scientist & Head, HRM Division, ICAR-NAARM, proposed thanks to the visiting delegates.