

**National Agricultural Innovation Project  
Project Implementation Unit**

**PROCEEDINGS OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REVIEW MEETING FOR  
CONSORTIA PARTNERS ON 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2009 AT 10.00 AM OF NASC  
COMPLEX, NEW DELHI.**

The 1st Meeting regarding Expenditure Review of the Consortia Partners under NAIP was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mruthyunjaya, National Director (NAIP) on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at NASC Complex, New Delhi.

The 33 Institutions from Delhi and nearby Delhi were invited to discuss the issue relating to Financial Management etc. The main issue was to review the expenditure status of the expenditure incurred by them upto 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 and what future course of action to be taken to expedite the expenditure upto 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 with regard to allocation/ sanctioned under different projects and different heads under NAIP. Out of 33 Institutions invited for the purpose, only 19 Institutions participated in the same.

National Director, NAIP welcomed the participants and expressed his concern about the slow progress of expenditure of various consortia partners. Director (F), NAIP elaborated the purpose of the meeting and stated that it is the matter of great concern that expenditure status of the institutions is very poor and it is the need of the hour to accelerate the expenditure and meet Financial and Procurement targets by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

The Institute-wise review was made by National Director, NAIP and Director (Finance), NAIP and instructed the consortia partners to meet the targets. The difficulties being faced by consortia partners were discussed at length in the meeting. The following points were raised in the meeting:

1. The Finance & Accounts Officer stated that they have not been provided the office assistant for the work relating to NAIP. Director Finance, NAIP stated that under NAIP one office assistant has been provided upto the payment of Rs.

8000/- per month for the jobs relating to Finance & Accounts as well Administration procurement and PI jobs relating to Finance & Accounts etc. This point was raised from most of the Finance Officers under NAIP that the office assistant provided specifically to assist Finance & Accounts for project work has been with the PIs of the projects in many cases. Hence, the difficulties are being faced by them. It was clarified in the meeting that the office assistant provided is specifically for assisting in Finance & Accounts. However, it was stated that separate instructions will be issued in this regard.

2. The Consortia Partners stated that the funds for expenditure under different sub-heads under recurring contingencies are not allowed by the Finance & Accounts Officers on the ground that second installment has not been released by the PIU. It was clarified that the expenditure cannot be stopped if it does not exceed the sanctioned budget under the particular sub-head and overall balances are available under the project however, the same can be adjusted from the subsequent releases during the same financial year.

There were also some issues relating to procurement, the queries of the same were replied immediately on the spot. It was clarified that the last year unspent funds under the Non-recurring head were revalidated with the approval of the Competent Authority as a special measure however this year that provision may not exist, therefore it was requested to make the procurement by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 after following the World Bank prescribed procedure with the approval of Competent Authority. Most of the consortia partners discussed the issue relating to "single quotation" received in response to open tender. It was clarified that the same can be considered subject to the fulfillment of prescribed conditions i.e. specification is generic, wide publicity is there and rates are reasonable.

At last Meeting ended with the Thanks to the Chair.