



# *Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture*

(A Project under National Agricultural Innovation Programme)



## **Unit of Simulation and Informatics**

A-0 Block, LBS Building  
Indian Agricultural Research Institute  
New Delhi 110 012

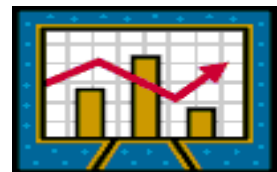
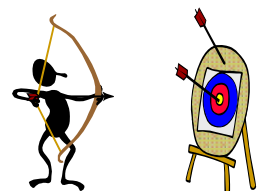


Oral communication has been an integral part of people to people interactions in all ancient civilizations. The process of communication has expanded over the years to cover print and other modes like computer and associated gadgets with the advancement of science and technology.

India is predominantly an agrarian country, and the growth of agriculture is reflected in the good yields of different crops that depend on various factors – natural and man-made. Agricultural research, the backbone of agricultural growth in the country, demands timely dissemination of knowledge being generated and updated across the globe from time to time. Hitherto, R and D institutions have been procuring print versions of journals and literature in aid of science and technology. With the advent of internet facilities and advancement of web technology, almost all reputed international journals are available on-line and can easily be accessed by researchers over the network. Since ICAR is having network connectivity across the institutes and state agricultural universities, select journals could be made available over the network for the use of scientific community. Keeping this broad objective in mind, the **National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP)** has funded for establishing the **Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA)** at the Indian **Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)**.

### Objectives of CeRA

- To develop the existing R & D information resource base of ICAR institutes/universities, etc., comparable to that existing in world's leading institutions/organizations
- To subscribe e-journals and create an e-access culture among scientists/teachers in ICAR institutes/agricultural universities
- To develop a Science Citation Index (SCI) Facility at IARI for evaluation of scientific publications
- To assess the impact of CeRA on the level of research publications measured through SCI



### Work Plan

The work plan to meet the above objectives comprises

- the establishment of a CeRA Co-ordination cell for negotiation and subscription of e-journals,
- formation of mandatory Committees for guiding and monitoring the work of the Consortium.
- installation and maintenance of a dedicated server for e- resources of the Consortium for maintaining archival repository of e-resources in electronic form
- development/adoption of a suitable software for e-access,
- identification and procurement of e-journals/publishers/vendors,
- organization of workshops / trainings to facilitate and popularise e-access and
- monitoring and impact analysis of e-resources through web of science and NASS ID.
- The Consortium consists of the following organizations under NARS:
 

➤ Deemed Universities	: 5
➤ ICAR Headquartes and Krishi Anusandhan Bhawans	: 3
➤ National Bureau	: 5
➤ Institutes	: 42
➤ National Research Centres	: 21
➤ Project Directorates	: 9
➤ State Agricultural Universities	: 38
<b>Total</b>	<b>: 123</b>
- Documentary delivery systems are to be developed at IARI, NDRI, IVRI and CIFE to enable those Consortium partners who do not have the print versions of particular scientific articles.
- Periodic reporting of the activities of the Consortum from time to time.



### Expected Outcome/Impact/Deliverables

- Online accessibility of all important journals related to agriculture and biotechnology to researchers and students of the Consortium members
- Quick access to world R & D information as available world wide
- Permanent archive of the subscribed e-databases.
- Improvement in the quality of scientific publications, and teaching and research guidance
- Providing one print version of each title subscribed for ready reference at IARI free of cost



### Committees under CeRA

#### 1. National Steering Committee

- Advisory in nature
- The tenure of members other than ex-officio members and member-secretary will be for two years
- Shall meet at least twice a year to make suggestions necessary for the smooth functioning of CeRA
- The member-secretary to submit status report on the functioning of CeRA



#### 2. Consortium Working Committee

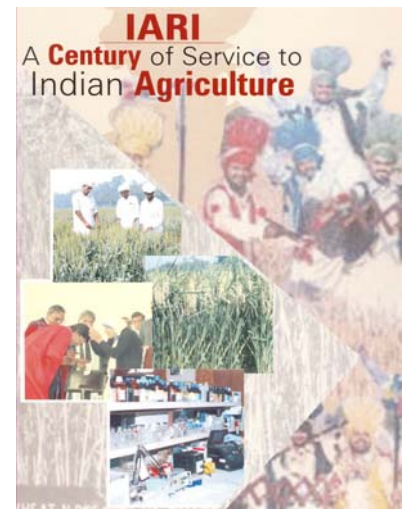
- To consider day-to-day activities and suggest suitable actions

#### 3. CeRA Monitoring Committee

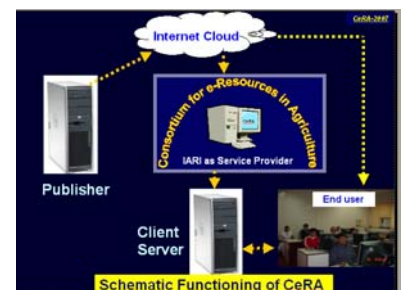
- Monitoring and negotiations with publishers

### About Host Institute

The Indian Agricultural Research Institute is the country's premier national institute for agricultural research, education and extension. It serves the cause of science and society with distinction through first rate research, generation of appropriate technologies and development of human resources. In fact, the Green Revolution was born in the fields of IARI, and our graduates constitute the core of the quality human resource in India's agricultural research and education. The Institute has all along been improving its policies, plans and programmes to effectively respond to the needs and opportunities of the nation. During the fifties, the advancement of scientific disciplines constituted the core programme and provided the base for its fast expansion in the 1960's and 1970's in all its three interactive areas, namely, research, education and extension. Besides basic research, applied and commodity research gained great importance resulting in the development of several popular high yielding varieties of almost all major crops and their associated management technologies, which brought about an unprecedented increase in the national food and agricultural production.



The establishment of CeRA under NAIP is a part of the ongoing activities of the Unit of Simulation and Informatics (USI) set up in November 2003 by merging the Unit of Applications System Simulation (UASS), the Bioinformatics Centre and Internet Facilities. The USI is housed in A0 Block of the LBS building of the Institute.



The IARI Central Library, which houses the CeRA office, is the focal point of the Institute. Over the years, the Library has expanded to meet the ever growing needs of the scientific and student community of the Institute and of the country as a whole. It has assumed the *de facto* status of National Agricultural Library of India, and is regarded as one of the 10 best agro-biological libraries of the world.



#### About NAIP:

The NAIP is to facilitate accelerated and sustainable transformation of Indian agriculture in support of poverty alleviation and income generation by collaborative development and application of agricultural innovation by the public research organizations in partnership with the farmer's groups, the private sector, the civil society organizations and other stakeholders. The specific programmes of NAIP are:



The specific programmes of NAIP are:

- To build the critical capacity of the ICAR as a catalyzing agent for management of change in the Indian NARS ([Component 1](#))
- To promote 'production to consumption systems research' in priority areas/ themes to enhance productivity, nutrition, profitability, income and employment ([Component 2](#))
- To improve livelihood security of rural people living in the selected disadvantaged regions through technology-led innovation systems, encompassing the wider process of social and economic change covering all stakeholders ([Component 3](#))

To build capacity to undertake basic and strategic research in frontier areas to meet challenges in technology development in the immediate and predictable future ([Component 4](#))

#### For further information please contact:

- **Dr. H. Chandrasekharan, Principal Investigator & Head, USI, IARI, New Delhi 110 012**  
(Telefax: 91-11-25842490; Phone: 25841255; Email: < [cera\\_usi@iari.res.in](mailto:cera_usi@iari.res.in) > & < [head\\_usi@iari.res.in](mailto:head_usi@iari.res.in) >)
- **Mr. A. K. Mishra, Co-Principal Investigator, USI, IARI, New Delhi 110 012**  
(Telefax: 91-11-25842490; 25841255; Email: < [cera\\_usi@iari.res.in](mailto:cera_usi@iari.res.in) >)
- **Mr. N. S. Pakhale, Co-Principal Investigator & Head, Library Services, IARI, New Delhi 110 012**  
(Phone: 91-11-25846368; Email: < [cera\\_usi@iari.res.in](mailto:cera_usi@iari.res.in) >)