



27-30 November 2023

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

**COCONUT CONSERVATION, VALORIZATION
AND EXCHANGE OF RESOURCES AND
GERMPLASM FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF THE COCONUT INDUSTRY (I-CONVERGED)**



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



S E A M E O
SEARCA

A detailed close-up photograph of a coconut inflorescence, showing the intricate structure of the yellowish-brown flowers and developing fruits. The image is positioned on the left side of the page, partially overlapping the brown header and the white main content area.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION, VALORIZATION AND EXCHANGE OF RESOURCES AND GERMPLASM FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COCONUT INDUSTRY (**I-CONVERGED**)

INAUGURAL PROGRAM

DAY 1 (AM), MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2023

7:30-8:00 **INGRESS
REGISTRATION**

8:00-8:02 **DOXOLOGY**
8:02-8:05 **NATIONAL ANTHEM**
8:05-8:10 **WELCOME REMARKS**

Dr. Glenn B. Gregorio

Center Director, SEARCA

8:10-8:25 **OPENING MESSAGE**

Mr. Bernie F. Cruz

*Administrator - Philippine Coconut
Authority, Philippines*

**GLOBAL COCONUT INDUSTRY
SITUATIONER, OPPORTUNITIES
AND WAYFORWARD THROUGH
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Dr. Jelfina Alouw

Executive Director - ICC

8:25-8:40 **ACIAR'S OUTLOOK ON
COGENT'S INITIATIVES**

Dr. Irene Kernot

ACIAR, Canberra-Australia

8:40-9:00 **INAUGURAL MESSAGE**

Sec. Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr.

Department of Agriculture - Secretary



PLENARY SESSION

DAY 1 (AM)

TIME	09:00-10:00	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
	10:00-10:20	COGENT'S NEW PERSPECTIVES Ms. Erlene C. Manohar ICC-COGENT Coordinator
	10:21- 10:40	POLICIES & INITIATIVES UNDER THE TREATY Dr. Daniele Manzella ITPGR, FAO ITGRFA
	10:41- 11:00	AREAS OF PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT AND OUTLOOKS FOR COCONUT: THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CROP WITH FOCUS ON COCONUT CONSERVATION AND USE Mr. Dean Lao Jr. UCAP - Philippines
	11:01-11:20	CONTRIBUTING TO A SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY: THE DOST-PCAARRD STRATEGIC S&T PROGRAM ON COCONUT Dr. Reynaldo Eborá DOST-PCAARRD, Philippines
	11:21-11:40	RESPONSIVE R & D: KEY TO SUSTAINABILITY OF THE INDUSTRY Ms. Cel Yap Senior Manager of Franklin Baker Company Philippines
	11:41- 12:00	STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP OF SECURING GLOBAL COCONUT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF GENEBANKS Dr. Nelissa Jamora CROP TRUST, Germany
	12:00-13:00	LUNCH BREAK



DAY 1 (PM)

THEMATIC SESSION NO. 1

IN-SITU AND EX-SITU CONSERVATION

1:00-1:20 COCONUT GENETIC RESOURCES COLLECTION, CONSERVATION, CHARACTERIZATION AND SHARING: CHALLENGES, GAPS, AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Plenary Speaker:

Dr. Lalith Perera (CRI-Sri Lanka)

Chairperson: Dr. Niral Vittal

ICAR-CPCRI, India

ORAL PAPER PRESENTATION

1:20-1:35 STRUCTURE AND DYNAMICS OF THE NOMENCLATURE OF COCONUT CULTIVARS. TOWARDS AN EVOLUTION TO INTEGRATE THE COMPACT DWARFS VARIETIES AS A SPECIAL TYPE

Dr. Roland Bourdeix (CIRAD, France)

1:35-1:50 PHYSICO-CHEMICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF POLLEN GRAINS FROM SELECTED COCONUT VARIETIES

Ranjini, T.N., Niral, V., Samsudeen, K., Hebbar, K.B., Selvamani, V., and Ivy Poul (ICAR-CPCRI, India)

1:50-2:05 COCONUT BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND UTILIZATION IN INDIA

Niral, V., Diwakar Y., Samsudeen, K., Jerard, B.A., Rajesh, M.K., and Hebbar, K.B. (ICAR-CPCRI, India)

2:05-2:20 A VISION FOR THE REPLANTING OF ULUNI (COCONUT GROVES) IN HAWAI'I AND BEYOND

Dr. Indrajit Gunasekara (University of Hawai'i, US)

2:20-2:50 **TECHNICAL DISCUSSION AND SYNTHESIS**



DAY 1 (PM)

THEMATIC SESSION NO. 2, GENOMICS AND BREEDING

2:50-3:10 SELECTION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF GENETIC RESOURCES TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY AND ADDRESSING INDUSTRY NEEDS FOR MARKET PROSPECTS OF HIGH-VALUE COCONUT PRODUCTS

Plenary Speaker:

Dr. Siwaret Arikrit

(Kasetsart University, Thailand)

Chairperson: Dr. Andrea Garavito

(CIRAD-France)

ORAL PAPER PRESENTATION

3:10-3:25 AN SSR-BASED APPROACH IN MARKER-TRAIT ASSOCIATION ANALYSIS FOR FATTY ACID CONTENT IN COPRA OIL

Speedy D. Crisostomo, Don Emanuel M. Cardona, Reina Esther S. Caro, Anand Noel C. Manohar, Jesmar Cagayan, Roanne R. Gardoce, Alma O. Canama-Salinas, Ramon L. Rivera and Consorcia E. Reaño (UPLB, Philippines)

3:25-3:45 TEA/COFFEE BREAK

3:45-4:00 EXPRESSION AND ANALYSIS OF GENES ASSOCIATED WITH SOMATIC EMBRYOGENESIS OF COCONUT (COCOS NUCIFERA L.) CV. BAYBAY TALL

Cristeta A. Cueto, Dennyse Diaz, Melissa Melitante, Darlon V. Lantican, Maria Czet A. Fulleros, and Maria Elizabeth B. Naredo (PCA Albay Research, Philippines)

4:00-4:15 DEVELOPMENT OF NEW POTENTIAL DWARF X TALL HYBRID FOR HIGHER YIELD

R. Sudha, V. Niral, K. Samsudeen, B.A Jerard and Ranjini, T.N. (ICAR-CPCRI, India)



THEMATIC SESSION NO. 2

ORAL PAPER PRESENTATION

4:15-4:30 GENETIC DIVERSITY ANALYSIS OF COCONUT (*COCOS NUCIFERA* L.) ACCESSIONS NATIVE TO ISLAND AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEM OF INDIA USING SSR MARKERS

Diwakar, Y, Niral, V, Khadke, G. N,
Vishnuvardhana, Ramesh, S. V, Halesh, G.
K and Venkatesh, J. (ICAR-CPCRI, India)

4:30-4:50 TECHNICAL DISCUSSION AND SYNTHESIS

6:30-9:00 FELLOWSHIP NIGHT



DAY 2 (AM), TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2023

THEMATIC SESSION NO.3, CROP PROTECTION AND SAFE GERMPLASM EXCHANGE

8:00-8:20 PROTECTION OF GENE BANKS AND
STANDARD BIOSAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR
SAFE EXCHANGE OF GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR USE OF THE INDUSTRY

Plenary Speaker:

Dr. Celia Medina (UPLB, Philippines)

Chairperson:

Dr. Wayne Myrie (CIB, Jamaica)

ORAL PAPER PRESENTATION

8:20-8:35 INVASIVE PEST ALERT: THE FIRST
REPORT OF WHITEFLY (HEMIPTERA:
ALEYRODIDAE) SPECIES AND THEIR
POTENTIAL NATURAL ENEMIES ON
COCONUT IN SRI LANKA

DEMUNI H. Dilrukshika, DAYALATH

P.M. Silva, NAYANIE S. Aratchige,

PRASAD R. De Silva. (CRI, Sri Lanka)

8:35-8:50 GENOTYPING BY SEQUENCING AND
PHENOTYPIC ANALYSIS FOR UNRAVELLING
POPULATION STRUCTURE IN LASIODIPLODIA
ASSOCIATED WITH COCONUT

Prathibha V.H., Rajesh M.K., Rajkumar,

Daliya Mol, Sujithra M., Keerthana J. Thejasri

K.P. and Vinayaka Hegde (ICAR-CPCRI, India)

8:50-9:05 ENTOMOPATHOGENIC NEMATODES: A
NOVEL APPROACH FOR THE MANAGEMENT
OF COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE

Rajkumar, Joseph Rajkumar, Prathibha

V.H., Surekha R. and Vinayaka Hegde

(ICAR-CPCRI, India)

9:05-9:20 INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE
DETECTION, MONITORING, AND CONTROL
OF THE RED PALM WEEVIL, AN EMERGING
INSECT PEST OF COCONUT IN THE
PHILIPPINES

Ms. Amalin Divina, De La Salle University,
Philippines

9:20-9:50 **TECHNICAL DISCUSSION AND SYNTHESIS**



DAY 2 (AM)

THEMATIC SESSION NO.4, COCONUT TISSUE CULTURE AND CRYOPRESERVATION

09:50-10:10 MASS PROPAGATION OF QUALITY
PLANTING MATERIALS USING
COCONUT TISSUE CULTURE
PROTOCOLS TO ACCELERATE
COCONUT PLANTING/REPLANTING
PROGRAMS

Plenary Speaker:

Dr. Vijitha R. M. Vidhanaarachchi
(CRI- Sri-Lanka)

Chairperson:

Dr. Bart Panis
(Bioversity Alliance, Belgium)

10:10-10:30 TEA/COFFEE BREAK

ORAL PAPER PRESENTATION

10:30-10:45 COAXIM, AN INNOVATIVE PROTOCOL
FOR MASS CLONAL PROPAGATION
OF COCONUTS

BART PANIS, WILMS Hannes, YU- CHUN
Liao, MOREIRA Suzana (Bioversity,
Belgium)

10:45-11:00 IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL
EXPLANT FOR IN VITRO
PROPAGATION OF COCONUT

RENUKA R, Rohith S, Kavibalan S, Suresh
J, Gowda H. B. and Prabhat Kumar (Tamil
Nadu Agricultural University, India)

11:00-11:15 OPTIMIZATION OF DIRECT
ORGANOGENESIS FROM IMMATURE
INFLORESCENCE EXPLANTS OF COCONUT

DR. SHAREEFA M, Sreelekshmi JS, Maya
lekshmi, Rajesh (ICAR-CPCRI, India)

11:15-11:30 MICROPROPAGATION OF COCONUT
AT PCA-ALBAY RESEARCH CENTER

DR. MARIA BUENA A. UBALDO, NAZ
L Aivy and CUETO A. Cristeta (PCA,
Philippines)

11:30-11:45 **TECHNICAL DISCUSSION AND SYNTHESIS**

11:45-12:45 LUNCH BREAK



DAY 2 (PM)

THEMATIC SESSION NO.5, CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION TO COCONUT BASED FARMING SYSTEMS (CBFS)

12:45-1:05 CLIMATE-CHANGE IMPACT AND ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL COCONUT PRODUCTION

Plenary Speaker:

Dr. K. Balachandra Hebbar
(ICAR-CPCRI, India)

Chairperson:

Dr. S. Sudarsono
(IPB University, Indonesia)

ORAL PAPER PRESENTATION

1:05-1:20 CHARACTERIZATION OF LEAF GROWTH AND PHYSIOLOGICAL TRAITS OF COCONUT UNDER SIMULATED DROUGHT CONDITIONS

SAMARASINGHE C.R.K, Antonio G. Lalusin, M. K. Meegahakumbura, and D.P. Kumarathunge
(CRI, Sri Lanka)

1:20-1:35 WATER USE EFFICIENCY (WUE) OF COCONUT (COCOS NUCIFERA L.): INSIGHTS FROM BIOCHEMICAL AND MOLECULAR APPROACHES

RAMESH S.V, YESHASHWI Naik, SHARANYA Kodoth, SUGATHA P., ABHIN.P., HEBBAR K.B
(ICAR-CPCRI, India)

1:35-1:50 FOLIAR AND SOIL NUTRIENT BASED YIELD PREDICTION MODEL IN COCONUT PALMS - AGRO CLIMATIC APPROACH FOR SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION

JEENA MATHEW, S. Indhuja, A. Abdul, Haris, P. Subramaniyan, Asha K Chandran, Sandip Shil and Ravi Bhat (ICAR-CPCRI, India)

1:50-2:05 FARM DIVERSIFICATION IS CRITICAL TO PROMOTING CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN THE COCONUT PRODUCTION SECTOR

AGUILAR, Edna, ARCA, Maria Ellaiza, ELLEVA, Lance Irvin, RAMOS, Ebraim, PETIZA, Neisel Lyca, and GARCIA, Glaisa (UPLB, Philippines)

2:05-2:30 **TECHNICAL DISCUSSION AND SYNTHESIS**



DAY 2 (PM)

THEMATIC SESSION NO.6, SOCIO ECONOMIC ASPECT AND USE OF GENETIC MATERIALS

2:30-2:50 COCONUT GENETIC RESOURCES: ITS SOCIOECONOMIC WORTH AND TRENDING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CONTEXT OF INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

Plenary Speaker:

Dr. Julianne Biddle

Senior Director Multilateral and Government Partnerships, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR, Australia)

Chairperson:

Ret. Gen. Benjamin Madrigal, Jr.

NSC Deputy Director General-Chief of Staff
ICC Technical Working Group - Chairperson

ORAL PAPER PRESENTATION

2:50-3:05 SOWING SEEDS FOR SUSTAINABILITY
Ramon Taniola, Senior Consultant of D&L Industries, Inc./Lao Foundation, Philippines

3:05-3:20 PRODUCTION OF COCONUT SEEDLING AND COPRA IN A SINGLE NUT: AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH IN COCONUT PRODUCTION
Salvacion J. Legaspi (Capiz State University, Mambusao, Philippines)

3:20-3:35 UTILIZATION OF COCONUT GENETIC RESOURCES IN BOOSTING THE COCONUT INDUSTRY IN SABAH
Shaftang Nancy (Dept. of Agricultural, Sabah, Malaysia)

3:35-4:00 TEA/COFFEE BREAK

4:00-4.15 PARTICIPATORY ON-FARM CONSERVATION AND UTILIZATION OF COCONUT ECOTYPES; EXPERIENCES OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC INTERVENTIONS TO POPULARISE 'BEDAKAM COCONUT' IN KASARAGOD DISTRICT, KERALA, INDIA
THAMBAN C, Samsudeen K., Rajesh M.K., Jayasekhar S. and Chandran K.P (ICAR-CPCRI, India)

4:15-4:30 **TECHNICAL DISCUSSION AND SYNTHESIS**



DAY 3, WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2023

9:00-10:00 WORKSHOP AND SYNTHESIS
 OF CONFERENCE OUTPUT

10:00-11:00 PRESENTATION OF
 CONFERENCE OUTPUT
 Dr. Celia Medina (UPLB, Philippines)

11:00-12:00 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THANKS
 AND ADJOURNMENT
 Mridula Kottekate
 Assistant Director, ICC

12:00-13:00 LUNCH BREAK