



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



SEAMEO  
**SEARCA**



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

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## 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 Ebora**  
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 ULUNIU (COCONUT GROVES) IN HAWAII AND BEYOND

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

2:20-2:50 TECHNICAL DISCUSSION AND SYNTHESIS



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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 Arikit**

(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 Consorcio 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 Militante, 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)



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## 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



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## 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