

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSE ON COCONUT PLANTATION MANAGEMENT



Information Sheet for Participants

1. Introduction and Organization

The International Certificate Course on Coconut Plantation Management, with code reference ICCCPM 1-2018, is organized and conducted by Coconut Research Institute of Sri Lanka (CRI) under the auspices of the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC).

The Ministry of Plantation Industries and the CRI will conduct the course at its headquarters and the research substations with the their highly qualified staff and structured in a manner to give 145 hours of lectures, 20 days of practical demonstrations, 3 days of field visits and 10 days of on-site practical training in its own coconut estates. Experts from the other scientific institutes and from the private sector will also be used as resource speakers when and where appropriate. Food including snacks and hotel accommodation and local transport arrangements during the course and lecture theater facilities will also be provided by the CRI.

CRI will also host a study tour around the country as a part of the training. Simple medical and dental care cost will be covered by the CRI, but the participants are strongly advised to take a travel, health and all other necessary insurance covers from the country of origin before departing.

The number of trainees for the course will be limited to 15 and the course duration is 60 days. At the end of the course, participants will be evaluated through examination component and practical test prior to being awarded a "Certificate of Competence".

2. Dates & Venue

The first ICCCPM, to be coded ICCCPM 1-2018, will be conducted over a period of 57 days with inclusive dates of **13 June - 3 August 2018**. The venue is the headquarters and research facilities complex of CRI at the Bandirippuwa Estate in Lunuwila, Sri Lanka.

3. Theme and Scope

The theme of the course is 'Coconut Plantation Management' and the purpose is to provide the international trainees with a wider scope of scientific knowledge and improved skills capacity with practical training utilizing up-to-date and advanced technologies.

The course will cover new technological developments on increasing coconut yield and productivity through varietal improvement, soil nutrient management using organic and inorganic fertilizer, efficient water management in coconut plantations, reduce field losses through managing biotic stresses using biological, chemical and integrated systems, climate smart coconut cultivation, climate hazard mitigation, yield prediction, coconut-based farming systems, post-harvest techniques and many more.

The course will also cover technology updates in the manufacture of emerging high value coconut products, maximum utilization of energy efficient systems, organic coconut cultivation, labour management and estates accounting systems and record keeping.

Issues and topics related to the global coconut industry and physiological impact of global warming on coconut development including the carbon credit market is also included in the course.

4. Official contact persons at CRI:

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Eligibility

Participants or trainee applicants can be from any coconut growing country however initial intake would be participants from APCC member countries and remaining slots then allocated to nonmembers. It is preferable that applicants are currently involved or engaged in coconut cultivation, processing, research, development, management and farm extension services, in both the public and private sector organizations or as individuals, with which consideration would more favorable.

All interested participants would need to fully complete and submit the standard 'Application Form' attached or downloaded from the APCC and CRI websites.

The minimum qualification requirement to enroll for the course is equivalent to a Senior Secondary or High School Certificate with experience in agriculture, a first Certificate in Agriculture, a first College Diploma in Agriculture or a first Degree in Agriculture. Preference would be given to applicants with higher qualifications in agriculture or agriculture related fields and those who have current experience in coconut industry. Participants are to be proficient in oral and written English.

With regards to health and age status it is expected that prior to leaving point of origin all trainee participants would have completed the appropriate medical examinations and declared healthy and physically fit for overseas training. Age range preferred for participant is a healthy 25 – 50 years.

7. Course Fee & Registration

The all-inclusive Course Fee of **USD 4,500** will entitle participants to undertake the entire course, printed course manual, printed course material & related general stationery, electronic copies of course material, study tours, accommodation, meals and daily refreshments during the course period, transport from and to airport, transport from and to accommodation from the course venues, transport to all field visits and basic medical treatments and examination fees for any minor illness during the course.

We respectfully inform participants that the prescribed Course Fee is payable in advance by Telegraphic Transfer to:

Account name : Asian & Pacific Coconut Community

Bank name : CITIBANK

Bank address : KCP CITIBANK Tower, Pacific Centuty Place, SCBD Lot 10

Jl. Jendral Sudirman No. 52 - 53, Jakarta 12190, Indonesia

Account number : 0-500093-528

Swift Code : CITIIDJX

All payment shall be made on net basis, clear of any commission, bank charges and any other charges.

Upon registration on arrival, all registered participants shall be provided with CRI identification card to be worn throughout the full duration of the course.

8. Application Form

The Application Form for this course can also be downloaded from the websites of APCC and CRI. Duly completed application form should be scanned and email to the APCC Secretariat to apcc@indo.net.id and apcc@apccsec.org.

9. Course Details & Information

Details relating to objectives, course content, practical demonstrations, budget and teaching staff are included in the Course Handbook and related promotion brochures. All such information is also available officially on both the CRI and APCC websites. The handbook and relevant details will be handed to participants upon registration.

10. Accommodation

Arrangements are in place for all participants to be accommodated initially at the Rani Beach Hotel, Ethukala, Negombo, approximately 20 minutes from the training venue. All rooms are for single occupancy for the duration of the course.

11. Transport arrangements

The CRI will provide transport for Airport/Hotel transfer and all movements related to the Course.

12. Visa Requirements:

All participants should obtain the appropriate Entry Visa and Permit from the nearest Embassy or Consulate of Sri Lanka to your country of origin which permits you to stay a period of 60 days or more for Education & Training Purpose prior to their departure.

Sri Lankan visa application may also easily be obtained online by visiting www.eta.gov.lk. The visa fees are US\$20 (SAARC countries) and US\$30 (other countries).

It is the responsibility of participants to secure their own visa requirements to visit Sri Lanka and transit visa, if required. Visa supporting letters and invitation letters to the course will be provided by the Coconut Research Institute of Sri Lanka.

13. Insurance

Neither APCC nor the Coconut Research Institute will be responsible for personal accidents, medical services, or damage to the private property of participants. It therefore is highly advisable for participants to take all appropriate insurance covers prior to departing from your country of origin.

14. Airlines Servicing Colombo, Sri Lanka

The main international airport in Sri Lanka is the Bandaranaike International Airport in Katunayake. The international airport is approximately 30 minutes driving time to the Coconut Research Institute.

The major airlines which fly to Bandaranaike International Airport (CMB) such as Sri Lankan Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Thai International Airways, Malaysia Airlines, Air India, Cathay Pacific, Emirates, Qatar Air, Jet Airways, Kuwait Airways, Air Arabia and one or two airlines from Indonesia.

15. Currency

The currency used in Sri Lanka is Sri Lankan Rupee (LKR). The exchange rate against US Dollar is approx US\$ 1 = LKR 155 as of December 2017. Money exchanging is available in the airport and also at all state and private banks. Private money exchangers are also available in major cities. Secretariat to the course at CRI will help participants to exchange monies to local currency if required.

16. Climate

Sri Lanka enjoys a moderate tropical climate with temperatures ranging from 29 - 32 °C.