

E-Mail

F. No. 1-1/2022-AER-ES
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Economics, Statistics & Evaluation Division
(AER Section)

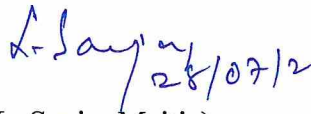
539A Krishi Bhawan,
New Delhi-110 001
Dated: 28th July, 2023

Subject: Minutes of meeting held on 26th July, 2023 under the Chairpersonship of Adviser (AER) on 26.07.2023 with the Heads of AERCs-reg.

The undersigned is directed to enclose the Minutes of the VC meeting with the **under the Chairpersonship of Adviser (AER) on 26.07.2023 with the Heads of AERCs/Us** for information and further necessary action. The list of participants is at **Annexure**.

2. This issues with the approval of Adviser(AER).

Encl: as above


(L. Sanjoy Meitie)
Economic Officer (AER)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD UNDER THE CHAIRPERSONSHIP OF ADVISER (AER), ES&E DIVISION, DA&FW WITH THE HEADS OF AERCS ON 26TH JULY, 2023

A VC meeting with heads of AERCs/Us under the **Chairpersonship of Adviser (AER)** was held on **26.07.2023** at 04:00 PM to discuss Concurrent Feedback/Impact Assessment of schemes to be completed in 2-3 months. At the outset, Adviser AER mentioned about the formation of subcommittee with Prof. Ranjan Ghosh, CMA, IIMA as the Chairman. The subcommittee is to work out methodology, sample size, data collection, etc. and further to facilitate coordination among AERCs/Us for sample survey. The list of participants at **Annexure**.

In the meeting the following the following broad points emerged:

1. **List of Schemes-** it was informed that a list of selected ten schemes has been sent to AERCs/Us. Each scheme is to be co-ordinated by one Centre/Unit. However, each Center/Unit is to be looped in for survey. Since some of the schemes have an all India presence, the survey may cover all states/agro-climatic zones. It is of utmost importance that for region/zone-wise specific survey/data collection, each AERC/U of a particular region is to be involved in conducting survey of the regions coming under their jurisdiction.

2. **Sampling design/ methodology and sample size-** It was mentioned that the beneficiary lists except for PMFBY and AIF are not available. Prof. Kalamkar, AERC, V.V. Nagar stated that for complete information regarding beneficiary list AERCs would have to go to the state to fetch the district wise data. It is required for adequate representation and random stratified sampling. Further, he stated without target population data, the exercise would become purposive sampling. With the time constraints, it is difficult. Ideally, for schemes with a high number of beneficiaries, greater sample size is better for good results, but given the paucity of time, smaller samples would work. Prof. Brajesh Jha, IEG stated that for sample selection few states may be selected initially, so that the quality of output is higher. Concerned department's opinion regarding the sample selection is crucial regarding this.

Prof. Ramappa, ADRTC, ISEC Bengaluru stated that for a huge population, there are minimum sample sizes that can be calculated at a given level of significance. He further stated that for all India schemes, one may choose a certain sample size and go only to certain districts. Adviser mentioned that the sub-committee may decide upon it. Sample design may be such that it may appropriately represent all strata of the scheme. Appropriate sample size and state weights to be assigned to adequately represent results at all India level.

3. **Questionnaire-** It was informed that the respective programme divisions have sent questionnaires and it has been shared with AERCs/Us. It is a longer version of questionnaire for concurrent feedback/impact assessment. Adviser suggested that these may be finalised by AERCs/Us keeping in reference questions of programme divisions and revert back to AER Division at the earliest. Finalisation of the Questionnaires may be such that the key performance indicators may be mapped for analytics for dashboard and report generation of each of the selected schemes.

4. Method of Survey

- i. It was advised that the sub-committee may finalise whether to do field survey- through mobile app or hard copies of questionnaires as software requirement and connectivity issues were raised by Prof. JM Singh, AERC Ludhiana.
- ii. COST ESTIMATES- It was also suggested that the subcommittee may provide an estimated cost per questionnaire for conducting primary survey with respect to each of the selected schemes. Prof. Jayanti Kajale further stated that the AIF Division directed them to submit a quote for cost for AIF evaluation and AERC Pune has reverted back.

5. Separate Head of Account for impact assessment- Many centres including Prayagraj raised the issue of having a separate account for funds for concurrent feedback/impact assessment for ease of transaction as it is difficult to use the fund from university account/AER account. Prof. Ranjan Ghosh, CMA, IIMA stated that in this particular case, the different AERCs/Us may come out with different arrangements for handling financial aspects.

6. Further, he stated that the subcommittee would conduct a meeting with all AERCs the following day and work out a basic template regarding the level of coordination, coverage, sampling, and requirement for a separate financial head for impact assessment.

7. Adviser stated that as per direction of the Secretary, this all has to be completed within three months starting from August. Regular meetings to track the progress and to resolve any issues with respect to the survey would be conducted.

8. Following action points emerged for AERCs/Us:

- i. Concurrent feedback/impact assessment to be completed within 3 months
- ii. Finalisation of Questionnaires and to be mapped with KPIs for analytics generation/report writing by AERCs/Us.
- iii. AERCs/Us to finalize a) Sampling Design/ Framework and strata for each scheme, b) Appropriate sample and state weight to be assigned to adequately represent result at all India level
- iv. All AERCs/Us are to be involved in conducting survey in regions coming under their jurisdiction.
- v. All AERCs/Us are to provide sample survey cost estimation

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair

List of participants:

Officers/Officials from DA&FW

1. Dr. Promodita Sathish, Adviser, E&S Division Chairman
2. Sh. L. Sanjoy Meitei, EO (AER), E&S
3. Ms. Neha Arora, TA, AER, E&S

Officers/Officials from AERCs

1. Prof. Brajesh Jha, Head, AER Unit, IEG, Delhi
2. Prof. Ranjan Ghosh, Chairperson, AER Unit, CMA, IIM Ahmedabad
3. Prof. Jayanti Kajale, Professor, AERC Pune
4. Prof. S.S. Kalamkar, Professor and Director, AERC Gujarat
5. Prof. Ramappa K.B., Professor and Head, ADRTC, ISEC Bengaluru
6. Prof. Hasib Ahmed, Professor, AERC Allahabad
7. Prof. J.M.Singh, and Head, AERC Ludhiana
8. Prof. Purshottam, Director, AERC Waltair
9. Shri Ranjan Kumar Sinha, AERC Bhagalpur
10. Shri Deepak Rathi, AERC Jabalpur
11. Shri Yogesh Bhat, AERC Delhi
12. Shri Kiran Thete, Research Associate, CMA, IIM Ahmedabad
13. Ms. Nisha Rani, AERC Shimla
14. Shri Gautam Kakaty, AERC Jorhat
15. Representative from AERC Viswa Bharati