

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

**CLIMATE CHANGE THREATS TO AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY** 

THINK-ADAPT Department of Agronomy and Climate Change Centre The University of Agriculture Peshawar, Pakistan

November 22 - 24, 2017















# **The Changing Climate**

Several studies on global scale have indicated significant negative effects of climate change on food production systems and a serious challenge to food security especially in developing part of the world. Under these unprecedented climate change scenarios, mitigation measures are required to be adopted to increase productivity, efficiency and resilient of agricultural systems with a view of meeting food security for ever-increasing human populations, changing dietary patterns and also negating environmental impacts of agricultural practices on natural resources. Without any doubt, climate change is currently an area of major concern because of its multiscale negative effects, particularly in developing countries. Drought, extreme weather events, rising sea levels and melting of glaciers are the widely quoted examples of climate change.

Pakistan, being a 6th high-risk climate-change vulnerable country, is facing critical challenges of adopting climate change measures. Climate change risks for Pakistan are multiplied many-folds because of its agriculture-based economy and rural-dominated population. These facts coupled with limited availability of infra structural development and lack of awareness among the stakeholders lead to exacerbating negative effects of climate change. In addition, decrease in crop yields and frequent crop failures under climate change intensify negative effects on economic well being and livelihoods of small landholding farmer communities.

The International Conference on "Climate Change Threats to Agriculture and Food Security" will serve as an effective platform to discuss the issues and extent of climate change effects on cropping systems in Pakistan with adaptation measures and role of different stakeholders. The outcomes of this highly interactive conference will contribute to local capacity building on climate change awareness and adaptation strategies. The conference will be jointly organized by the Department of Agronomy and Climate Change Centre the University of Agriculture Peshawar (UAP) with the financial support of Higher Education Commission, Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation Pakistan, CIMMYT and other organizations.

# **Objectives**

The objective of the conference is to highlight the climate change threats to agriculture and food security and its consequences for developing countries especially Pakistan. The conference will provide an opportunity to academia, researchers, faculty members, agricultural extension workers, students, progressive farmers, policy makers and other stakeholders to share knowledge and experiences pertaining to climate change effects on agriculture. National and international invited speakers will highlight both technical and social aspects of climate change in relation to threats for crop production, livestock rearing, soil and water management, and adaptive measures to cope with adverse effects of climate change.

### **Conference themes**

The conference will focus on but not limited to the following major themes:

- A. Climate change and natural resources management (e.g. water, light, nutrients, land etc.) for quality food production
- B. Climate change and food production for increasing population (e.g. unit production, production cost, input efficiency, farming system and climate sensitive innovation and diversification)
- Biotic and abiotic stresses to crops under climate change
   (e.g. pests, insects, diseases, high temperatures or heat, drought and salinity stress etc.)
- D. Climate change and impact on food security, nutrition and health (quality of produce, shelf life and replication as seed source etc.)
- E. Climate change adaptation strategies.

# Why to attend the Conference?

About 500 participants including faculties, researchers, students, policy makers and other stakeholders will have an opportunity to meet and share knowledge and research findings regarding climate change threats to agriculture and food security. This will be a great opportunity for generating and collecting new ideas for research on climate change adaptation in the future. The conference will provide a forum for institutions, researchers, faculties, young scientists and others to promote linkages and discuss future opportunities for joint research and knowledge exchange.

# Who should attend the conference?

Policy makers, faculties, scientists, PhD/MS students, development practitioners, progressive farmers, seed and pesticides companies and other stakeholders from all over the country with an interest in climate change adaptation are invited to attend the conference. Young scholars and scientists in particular are encouraged to participate and present their research work.

# **Expected outcome of the Conference**

The conference is expected to develop a shared vision on climate change threats to Agriculture and food security. It will establish a platform for further networking and synergies of stakeholders regarding research, education and policy dialogue for practical and realistic adaptation measures.

# **Program**

Venue: The University of Agriculture Peshawar Pakistan.

Dates: November 22 - 24, 2017. Timing: 09.00 to 16.00 hours

### **Call for Papers**

Abstracts may be submitted as MS Word document at <a href="mailto:agronomy@aup.edu.pk">agronomy@aup.edu.pk</a> or <a href="mailto:ccc@aup.edu.pk">ccc@aup.edu.pk</a> till November 08, 2017, while full papers of the selected abstracts to be submitted till November 15, 2017.

# **Registration Form**

The registration form can be collected from Agronomy Department and Climate Change Centre or downloaded from the University website: www.aup.edu.pk or may be requested through e-mails. Interested participants may send the filled registration form with registration fee of Rs. 1500 (without boarding) and Rs. 3000 (with boarding) facilities in the University guesthouses via email or postal address as given below on or before October 31, 2017.

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The Patron of the conference Prof. Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Swati, Vice Chancellor UAP and the Conference conveners Prof. Dr. Mohammad Akmal, Chairman Department of Agronomy and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Zulfiqar, Director Climate Change Centre welcome you to the "THNIK-ADAPT" Conference 2017.