

Press Release

Combined Meeting of the Implementing Agencies of the Project, *Post-Harvest Management and Value Addition of Fruits in Production Catchments in SAARC Countries*

October 4-5, 2017, Thimphu, & Paro Bhutan. Implementing Agencies from 6 SAARC Member States (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) met in Thimphu and Paro, Bhutan on 4-5 October 2017 for the Combined Meeting of the Project, *Post-Harvest Management and Value Addition of Fruits in Production Catchments in SAARC Countries*. The meeting reviewed the status of project implementation in each of the participating Member States and agreed on the way forward for enhancing the impact of the project in the SAARC region. The meeting also deliberated on challenges, issues, work plan, sustainability, revenue generation model, pending activities, completion deadline and review of technology adopted by the IAs for value of fruits. The USD 4.9 million project is funded by the SAARC Development Fund. The Implementing Agencies also visited the National Post-Harvest Centre in Paro, Bhutan on 5 October.

During the meeting Dr. Sunil Motiwal, CEO, SDF said, *“SDF being the umbrella financial institution of SAARC, is fully committed to promote regional integration and to promote the welfare of the people of the region. I am confident that the SDF funded Post-Harvest Management project will bring change in the lives of the people and also bring synergies among the Member States on knowledge sharing on post harvest and fruit processing technologies.”*



Participants of combined meeting of Counterpart Agencies and Post Harvest project of SDF.