International Training on
Climate Smart and Nutri-Rich Cultivars for the Future

Date: 16 - 27 March 2026

Organized by
ICRISAT Center of Excellence for South-South Cooperation in Agriculture (ISSCA)

Under the Aegis of
Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) program of Government of India

About the course

Agriculture faces two high-priority challenges: climate change and hidden hunger. Global crop output is threatened by unpredictable weather patterns and resource constraints, while billions suffer from micronutrient deficiencies. This course addresses these challenges by focusing on the development of climate-resilient and nutrient-rich cultivars by integrating advanced breeding techniques, modern genomics, and innovative technologies that can secure food and nutrition for future generations.

Participants will gain insights into breeding strategies for heat and drought tolerance, biofortification approaches to enhance nutritional quality, and cutting-edge tools such as genomics, CRISPR, and AI-driven predictive breeding. The program also explores seed systems, post-harvest grain quality, and forage improvement, ensuring a holistic approach from field to plate. Beyond science, the course emphasises policy frameworks, global food security strategies, and public-private partnerships to accelerate adoption and impact.

Through interactive lectures, case studies, and discussions with global experts from leading research centres and universities, participants will learn how to integrate technology, sustainability, and socio-economic considerations into crop improvement programs. By the end of the course, attendees will be equipped to contribute to resilient, nutritious, and farmer-preferred cultivars, shaping a sustainable agricultural future.

Who should apply?

Scientist/ Researchers, Academics, National and International organisations, Policy makers, Industry leaders and others.

ICRISAT
INTERNATIONAL CROPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR THE SEMI-ARID TROPICS

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Course Topics

- Climate-smart breeding for resilience
- Integration of crop diversity & wild relatives
- Genomics, AI & digital tools in crop improvement
- Biofortification and nutrition enhancement
- Improving feed, forage, and grain quality for climate-smart agriculture
- Seed systems and scaling climate-smart varieties.
- Climate risk modelling & predictive breeding
- Digital agriculture & precision breeding
- Socio-economic dimensions of climate-smart agriculture
- Public-Private partnerships & innovation ecosystems
- Policy, governance & global food security.

Guidelines to Apply for the Course

- Create a login to apply for the course and furnish all the requisite information. Submit the application online and download the submitted application form.

- Take a printout of the submitted application form, get appropriate signatures at all the signature placeholders throughout the application form including the English proficiency certificate, medical report, candidate undertaking form and the Employer nomination form.

- Scan the complete application document and submit the physical copies of the application form including the undertaking form and the employer nomination form to the Indian High commission in your country and e-mail the scanned copy of the executed application form to vishwambhar.duche@icrisat.org with copy to babu.potta@icrisat.org.

Please note that we have very limited seats for the course and the eligible applications will be shortlisted by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India on First Come First Serve basis. Therefore, if you are interested, we recommend that you submit your application immediately without any delay.

In case you face any technical difficulties in applying for the course, such as portal issues, login issues or any website related errors, please screenshot the errors and email to help@itecgoi.in with copy to vishwambhar.duche@icrisat.org and babu.potta@icrisat.org.

Contact

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Approach and methodology of training: Experiential learning and field visits

Number of participants: 35

Application: The fully sponsored program is exclusive to non-Indian international participants only.

ITEC: Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation

Note: The potential candidate after filling the form online, may need to submit copy of the filled application to Indian Embassy/consulate in their country for funding approval.

Deadline to apply for the course:
20 February 2026

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