

## Linkages, value chains and development along the rural-urban interface

**Date:** This special ICDD conference will be held on 9-12 January, 2014 at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan.

**Sessions:** The delegates are invited to arrive on 8 January 2014. We plan to have a field day on 9 January, followed by a conference opening and scientific sessions from 10 January at 2 pm to 12 January at noon. Subsequently, there will be an opportunity (upon previous registration) to visit intensive agricultural and extensive agro-pastoral land use systems in Cholistan (13-15 January). A detailed program will follow.

**Theme:** The theme of the venue will be "Linkages, value chains and development along the rural-urban interface". All ICDD related faculties and participating Campuses are requested to collaborate with their colleagues and students to prepare a one page abstract under the overall theme.

**Abstracts:** We expect abstracts clearly relating to the above conference theme to be submitted to the ICDD before **10 December 2013**. All abstracts will undergo a review by Technical Committees on (i) **Rural to urban migration**, (ii) **Primary production, value chains and marketing**, and (iii) **Women empowerment and urbanization**. The contributors will be informed about their presentations either in oral or poster format. The abstracts received after the due date can't be guaranteed to be a part of the conference abstract book.

**Posters:** Abstracts which could not be considered for oral presentations will be given a chance to be presented in one of the guided poster sessions. The best three (3) posters will be awarded prizes.

**Student Participation:** All ICDD Supervisors in the global ICDD network from the Agricultural Campuses of (i) University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) Pakistan and from other Campuses of (ii) University of Kassel, Germany, (iii) Universidad Autonoma de Yucatan, Mexico, (iv) Egerton University, Merida, Kenya, and those of Social Sciences, (v) Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UniCamp), Brazil, (vi) University of the Witwatersrand (WITS), Johannesburg, SA, (vii) Tata Institute for Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, India and (viii) University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana are requested to spread the word and encourage their colleagues and students to present their work through oral or poster sessions at this event. Pakistani ICDD supervisor and student participation will be mandatory in this event. All presenters, either through oral or poster contributions, will be given participation certificates.

**International Attendants:** We hope our international guests from participating Campuses will choose to come to our beautiful Campus and will give us a chance to serve them at this event. ILO of Geneva (Switzerland and Islamabad) and FAO representatives are also invited to participate.

**Visa Formalities:** Should anyone need assistance or a letter for visa formalities in Pakistani Consulates in their respective countries, please let us know as soon as possible.

On behalf of the Vice Chancellor (Prof Dr Iqar Ahmad Khan), Director ORIC (Prof Dr Asif Ali) and myself, I welcome you all and hope to hear from you soon.

Prof Dr Muhammad Younas  
ICDD Secretariat  
University of Agriculture, Faisalabad  
PAKISTAN