

The AdaptNET workshop#4 on “**Next generation genomics for developing climate resilient crops**” was held at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Hyderabad, India, 10th-15th February 2020. The workshop focused on different disciplines ranging from basic science to applied aspects such as Nutrition and Quality, Next Generation Genomics, Biotic and Abiotic stresses, Genomic Resources and Trait Mapping, Genomics Assisted Breeding, Translational Genomics and Speed Breeding. The workshop also covered demo sessions on QTL mapping, digitalization of breeding programs, Genomics Open-source Breeding Informatics Initiative (GOBii), etc.

With the advent of huge genomic resources and modern technologies, plant research has been directed towards precise understanding of the target genes responsible for controlling important traits such as yield, abiotic, biotic stresses etc. Programmed/ systematic research could eventually lead us in developing high yielding, stress tolerant and early maturing varieties. The workshop examined how cross-disciplinary efforts are capturing and making use of genomic data to generate knowledge for advancing agriculture in the 21st century. It also sought to evaluate the challenges and opportunities for capturing or using genomic information in knowledge-generation for climate-smart agricultural systems.

The workshop had in total 36 lectures from renowned speakers from national and international research institutes. The participants also enjoyed 4 training tours to different state of the art facilities, i.e. Centre of Excellence on Climate Change Research for Plant Protection (CoE-CCRPP), High throughput sequencing and genotyping technologies facility, and LeasyScan facility and Genebank at ICRISAT.

The workshop hands-on approach was designed to actively engage trainees in demo/practical sessions that they could “export” in courses to be activated at their Institutions. We anticipate that this format of workshop is invaluable in providing the foundation of training for researchers in high throughput genomics for crop improvement. Upon that foundation, researchers can further specialize their training needs and effectively participate in the high throughput genomics technology revolution.

The story was widely covered and featured by CGIAR on its website

[\(https://www.cgiar.org/news-events/news/empowering-young-scientists-with-new-skills-to-develop-genomic-assisted-climate-resilient-crops/\)](https://www.cgiar.org/news-events/news/empowering-young-scientists-with-new-skills-to-develop-genomic-assisted-climate-resilient-crops/).