

Update from the planning team
Farmers' Dialogue – March 2025 – Asia Plateau

Dear friends,

Many of you have already registered! Many others are about to do so! This is very promising for the gathering of next March in India. The planning team of the event meets every second week for the preparation and wanted to share with you some more information.

- We remind participants who need a visa **to send their registration urgently now (the limit date was the 25th of December)** in order for the team in Asia Plateau to go through the administrative requirements for the visa process.
- Participants are invited to plan their **dates of arrival on the 1st of March and of departure on the 9th of March.**
- The programme is including during the “free time” a possibility to make a presentation of the participants’ situation (agriculture, FD activities, ...). Please be in contact with us if you are interested. We need to make sure that there is enough place and that the presentation will serve the aims of the gathering and stimulate the spirit of learning from each other.
- At this stage, the draft of **the programme aims to enlist the participants in an experience** of: getting to know each other – assessing the realities of agriculture today and discovering the resistance to change – farm visits to discover some realities in India – getting inspiration from specific experiences and people - reflecting together and individually about the lessons, challenges, needs to change and future plans – trying to imagine the role of “Farmers’ Dialogue” in the efforts needed for agriculture today.
- **Farm visits:** we are not yet able to present the different possibilities, but we hope to have different groups going to 3-4 places. One is Grampari, the Rural and Ecology training centre for local villages (see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z56n-v0Gnu0>) – Another one is the farming community around Baramati. We also hope to have one group discovering the project of TARU (<https://www.tarunaturals.com/>) and another group visiting the work of WOTR (<https://wotr.org/>). More information will come later.
- **Financial help:** we are conscious that the costs of visa, travel and stay may be a big amount for some participants. Unfortunately at the moment, we do not have the means to help participants, apart from helping those in need partly for the stay in Asia Plateau. We are still searching other funding and we may know more by the end of January.

With our best greetings,

Swee Lin (Malaysia) – Mojisola Owolana (Nigeria) – Dominicah Wanjiru (Kenya)
Jean-Pierre Emeriau (France) – Pierre Lokeka (DR Congo) – Biplab Mahato (India)
Claude Bourdin (France)

6th January 2025

PS: if needed, you can contact us with the email address: internationalfd@iofc.org

“Farmers’ Dialogue International” is a legal association under Swiss law based in Geneva. It is an associate member of the International Association of Initiatives of Change, an NGO with Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations and Participatory Status with the Council of Europe.

Contact: internationalfr@iofc.org - Website: www.farmersdialogue.org