

**INTERSESSIONAL PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION  
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

**Geneva, Switzerland  
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Contribution of Sri Lanka

to the CSTD 2016-17 priority theme on ‘The role of science, technology and innovation in  
ensuring food security by 2030’

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**United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development**  
**(CSTD)**

**1. How are the science, technology and innovation-related food security projects in your country or region resilient, sustainable, replicable, and or scalable? Can you give any success stories or examples in this regard from your country or region?**

In Sri Lanka we have many projects to improve food security in the country by increasing the yield, reducing postharvest losses, improve food nutrition and life style of people.

Industrial Technology Institute (ITI) is a multidisciplinary R&D institute functions under the Ministry of Science and Technology. Food Technology is one of the main area of research in ITI, and we have conducted many research on postharvest loss reduction of perishables, improve nutrition , value addition to local fruits, vegetables, cereals, pulses and fish , dairy, meat etc. Apart from that we have conducted many projects to utilize food waste or by products in order to improve the economic status of the country while improving food security. Currently we conduct a research project funded by the CIFSRF / IDRC ( Canadian International Food Security Research fund/International Development Research Center) Canada on “Enhanced preservation of fruits in South Asia (CIFSRF phase 1) and “Enhanced preservation of fruits using nanotechnology (CIFSRF phase 2). I will take this ongoing project as a success story

- **Location ;** The above project is a collaboration between 6 countries as mentioned below who works on a same agenda and milestones.

- Sri Lanka – Industrial Technology Institute
- Canada – University of Guelph
- India – Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
- Tanzania – Sokoine University of Agriculture
- Kenya – University of Nairobi
- Trinidad / West Indies – University of West Indies

- **Time period of implementation/starting data**

Phase I - R&D Part

Commencement Date – 1st March 2012

Completion Date – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Phase II - Commercialization of technologies developed

Commencement Date – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016

Completion Date – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 (ongoing)

- **Main Actor** -In Sri Lanka - Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)
- **Target audience**
  - Mango Growers
  - Banana Growers
  - Women Empowerment
- **Funder**
  - International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
- **Technology and innovation used**

## **Target Technologies developed and transferred**

ITI - Bio wax coating to extend the storage life of papaya and mango

Pre-harvest hexanal spray to extend the harvesting time (extend the season)

Development of banana fiber waste based packaging material for fruits

Socio-economic assessment of target beneficiaries

- **Tools to disseminate technology and innovation (Role means dissemination of research to the target audience/knowledge transfer/participatory research/cooperative research, extension, training, field days)**

Technologies are transferred using different mechanisms. Some technologies such as bio wax and pre-harvest hexanal spray treatment are transferred to fruit growers, collectors and exporters via conducting technology transfer workshops, field days and seminars.

Technology on banana fiber based packaging material is transferred by establishing three model centers as Public private partnerships. The general information on postharvest loss reduction and nutritional security is disseminated via stake holder workshops.

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- **Issues addressed/focus related to food security (e.g. enhance yield, food quality, storage, transports, diversity of food)**

Food quality and safety

Transportation

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- **Goals and objectives related to food security -**

Increase the availability of targeted crops

Reduce postharvest losses

Improve food nutrition

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- **Stage of implementation -** commercialization of technologies are in progress

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- **Is resilience or sustainability of the projects measured or evaluated? Is yes, how?**

Yes, by conducting baseline and end line surveys using target groups. Socio-economic benefit analysis

- **Is information available (books, papers, internet, news)?**

Project is still ongoing

### **Contact Person:**

Dr. (Ms.) Ilmi Hewajulige

Project Principal Investigator / Senior Deputy Director

Food Technology Section,

Industrial Technology Institute

363, Baudhaloka Mawatha

Colombo 07

+94 112379804

+94777290988

ilmi@iti.lk