

About the Event

Government officials from agricultural ministries, representatives from international organizations, universities, NGOs, more than 100 participants from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, The Philippines and Viet Nam met in Qingdao, China on 26-27 October 2013. They constructed dialogues on “Public-Private Partnership for Improved Food Security and Rural Livelihoods”. In parallel with the China International Agricultural Machinery Exhibition 2013, the Regional Forum on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Asia and the Pacific was jointly organized by CSAM of UNESCAP and China’s three leading associations in agricultural mechanization. It was supported by the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, FAO and Shandong Changlin Deutz-Fahr Machinery Company LTD.

The forum (see Annex 1 for agenda) has 3 major components: introduction of regional and country strategic initiatives; country perspectives review; and public-private partnership dialogue.

The meeting started with welcome remarks and followed by keynote speeches. Three sessions took place: Regional and Country Strategic Initiatives, dedicating to knowledge and information sharing on major ongoing strategic initiatives in the region and beyond; Country Perspectives Review, providing overviews of the status quo, challenges and prospects of agricultural mechanization in participating countries; Public-Private Partnership Dialogue: Opportunities for Regional Cooperation and Business Development, opening dialogues and discussions among the public-sector representatives on opportunities for regional cooperation and trade and investment.

The event raised awareness among key stakeholders of potentially greater contribution of sustainable agricultural mechanization to food production gains and improvement of rural livelihoods, initiated public-private partnership dialogues, seeking opportunities for regional cooperation and business development.