Zonal Review Meeting of Farmer FIRST Programme was organized at ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur on 18th December, 2017 on major theme of integrating technologies and enhancing knowledge. Principal Investigators from different ICAR Institutes and state Agricultural Universities viz; CAZRI, CSWRI, CIRB, CSSRI, NDRI, IARI, AU Jodhpur and CCSHAU Hisar actively took part. Consortium leaders from NAARM Hyderabad, IASRI and NICAP, New Delhi also participated in this meeting.

The major objective of meeting was to review the progress of the sanctioned projects about process, methodology and indicators, physical and financial progress and also to discuss the operationalization mechanism of the implementation of FFP to achieve the major goal and objectives.

Dr SK Singh, Director, ATARI, Jodhpur in his introductory remarks emphasised upon the involvement of research Institutes of ICAR and SAUs selected under Farmer FIRST programme as part of KVK Scheme. He also stressed that farm families selected under this programme must be involved as active partners in research mode i.e technologies selection, assessment and application for improving the livelihood security in a sustainable way. He also briefed about the FFP being implemented in the country and major initiatives by the Government of India to double the income of farming community during next five years. He urged for implementation of demand driven and need based technological modules. Dr PP Rohilla, Member Secretary briefed about the project modalities and evaluation through different committees constituted as per FFP guidelines. He explained that how FFP is unique programme holistic in nature consisting of several activities based on Integrated Farming System which covers interventions related to crop, livestock, natural resources and capacity building etc. in participatory mode with the farm families. The benefit given to farm families either in cash or kind has to be uploaded under DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) portal under this project. A total of 20 PIs and Co-PIs from Delhi, Haryana and Rajasthan states have participated in this Zonal Review Meeting. Dr M.S. Meena, Pr. Scientist proposed vote of thanks to all the participants.

(Source: ICAR-ATARI, Jodhpur)