

Nepal: A Time for Solidarity

Last week's devastating flash flood in northern Nepal, near the Tibetan border, is a stark reminder of how rural communities often find themselves on the front line of disasters they did little to cause.

Just months earlier, during a journey from Kathmandu to Pokhara, the Trishuli River followed us for much of the way — gentle, soft, and refreshing as it wound through the valleys. It is difficult now to imagine that same river transformed into a raging force, taking lives and futures with it.

At this difficult hour, our thoughts are with the families who have lost loved ones, those still waiting for news, and all those working courageously to rescue, support, and rebuild. May Nepal find strength in solidarity and may the resilience of its people light the path from grief to recovery.

Rhythm of Freedom



August filled with the familiar colours of the tricolour, bringing with it a moment of collective pause, pride, and recommitment. Independence Day passed, yet its spirit lingers. This Independence Day was special — India marks its 80th year of freedom. Here is our humble lyrical tribute on the occasion:

*India rises with its tricolour held high,
A promise carried as young dreams fly.
Celebrate the brave who shaped the nation's rise,
Let's walk this journey in step and rhyme.*

Happy 80th Independence Day!

Asia-Pacific Conference on Innovations in Rural Development

COLOMBO, SRILANKA | 6–10 OCTOBER 2026



The CIRDAP–REEDS International Rural Development Innovation Challenge 2026 set out to spotlight community-driven ingenuity across the Asia Pacific.

187 Proposals received	13 Countries represented	15 Innovations selected
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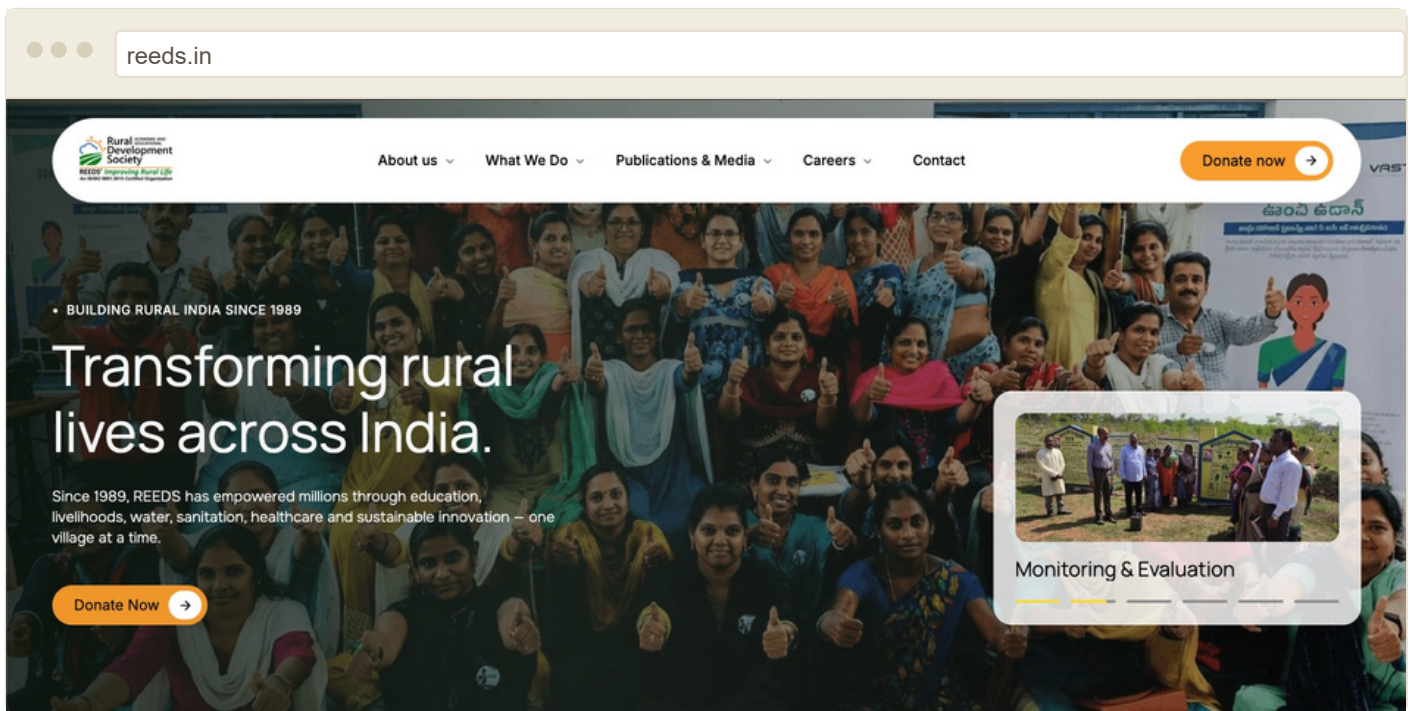
Launched in October 2025 across all 15 CIRDAP member countries, the Challenge received proposals from across the region. An independent International Jury selected 15 innovations — each showing how locally rooted ideas can reshape rural futures.

The journey now moves to Colombo for the Asia-Pacific Conference on Innovations in Rural Development. The Award Ceremony of the Rural Innovation Challenge will honour the selected innovators — and the communities whose determination brought these ideas to life.

The Conference will also unveil *100 Rural Development Innovations in Asia and the Pacific*, a regional compendium of promising approaches. Innovators, practitioners, policymakers, development partners, and investors from all 15 member countries will gather to exchange insights, build partnerships, and explore how these ideas can reach more communities. The Hon. Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Dr. Harini Amarasuriya, has been invited to grace the Inaugural Ceremony.

As co-sponsor, REEDS is honoured to join CIRDAP in celebrating rural innovation and warmly invites those working with rural communities and innovation networks to be part of the conversations in Colombo — where ideas meet, strengthen, and spark the next one.

New Website: A New Digital Home



Designed by Web Anatomy

We have moved to a new version of the REEDS website, thanks to Web Anatomy, our digital partners — offering cleaner navigation, a more contemporary look, and a step toward a stronger digital presence.

A few sections still need refinement, and some links await restoration. Even so, this new version gives us a solid foundation to build a website that not only informs, but also shares our work, tells our stories, and connects us more closely with those who believe in rural transformation.

We look forward to unveiling the fully updated website soon — and welcoming you to our new digital home.

[Visit the new site →](#)

Dr Ravi K. Reddy
SECRETARY, REEDS



WASH for change

Your contribution directly empowers rural communities through education and innovation. Together, we can build a sustainable future.

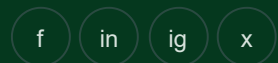
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