

REEDS Newsletter – July 2026

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CELEBRATING GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

CIRDAP Marks 47 Years of Rural Development Leadership



REEDS extends its warm congratulations to the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) on its 47th Foundation Day and the 2nd Observance of World Rural Development Day 2026, celebrated on 6 July 2026.

As a collaborative partner, REEDS is proud to join CIRDAP in commemorating nearly five decades of advancing sustainable rural development, strengthening regional cooperation, and improving the lives of rural communities across the Asia-Pacific. We value this enduring partnership and look forward to deepening our collaboration in innovation, knowledge sharing, and inclusive rural transformation.

INNOVATION ACROSS BORDERS

The Journey Continues to Colombo



CIRDAP - REEDS International Rural Development Innovation Challenge 2026

One Innovation. Endless Change. Countless Smiles.

Last month, we shared the overwhelming response to the CIRDAP–REEDS Rural Development Innovation Challenge 2026, which attracted 187 innovative proposals from 13 Asia-Pacific countries. Today, we are delighted to celebrate the next milestone in this inspiring initiative.

Following a rigorous evaluation by an independent International Jury Committee, 15 outstanding innovations have been selected for recognition, reflecting the creativity and commitment of rural innovators across the region.

For REEDS, this is far more than an awards programme. It is the realization of a shared vision with CIRDAP to create a regional platform that celebrates innovation, fosters collaboration, and inspires practical solutions for rural transformation. The next chapter unfolds at the Asia-Pacific Rural Development Innovation Conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka (4 - 9 October 2026), where the awardees will be honoured and share their innovations with policymakers, practitioners, and development partners from across the region.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

A Journey Through Rural Europe



A recent ten-day road journey through the rural interiors of seven European countries offered more than breathtaking landscapes—it provided fresh perspectives on communities where agriculture, tourism, heritage, and local enterprise flourish together.

Despite differences in geography and culture, rural communities everywhere share the same aspirations—better livelihoods, stronger local economies, and opportunities for future generations. These experiences continue to inspire REEDS as we adapt global insights to build resilient and prosperous rural communities in India.

As we continue to learn, collaborate, and innovate across borders, we remain committed to transforming ideas into meaningful action that improves rural lives. Thank you for being part of this journey.

With best wishes,



Dr Ravi K Reddy

Secretary

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