Soumyajit Chakraborty,
CTRPFP, CSSSC, Calcutta

Shall present
“Agro-Knowledge, Crop Diversification and Productivity: - Experience from ‘Feed the Future’ in Nepal”

Abstract

Agriculture in Nepal is the most critical sector for economic growth – it directly benefits the poor, and a considerable proportion of the population derives their livelihoods from agriculture. This paper explores the linkages between agronomical knowledge and productivity-enhancing farming decisions in parts of Nepal. Using data from 600 small-holder farmers (2018 Nepal Seed and Fertilizer survey sponsored by USAID), we jointly estimate crop diversification and farm income & productivity within a conditional (re-cursive) mixed process aka CMP framework. Empirical evidence indicates that there are significant, consistent, and positive returns to crop diversification, essentially a risk-averse strategy. We also find that crop diversification depends on agronomical knowledge gathered through collective farming experience and/or agricultural extension. Given the drawback of institutional irregularity in traditional advisory services, we propose a Silicon Valley approach aiming at climate-smart agriculture – for example, two-way IVR advisory system can be initiated for a pilot evaluation.

Date: Monday, 4th April, 2022
Time: 3.00 PM
Venue: CSSSC’s Seminar Room, Patuli Campus
All are welcome to attend
Dr. Sattwik Santra
(Seminar Sub-Committee)