

TROPICAL FRUITS INFORMATICS NETWORK VALUE CHAIN: PATHWAY FOR ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE FARMERS' INCOME

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ABSTRACT

Tropical fruits are the significant contributors in sustaining healthy diets, ensuring nutrition security, and providing an opportunity for sustainable development in rural areas, where agriculture is the main economic activity in developing nations. The International Tropical Fruits Network (TFNet), both international and regional, provides an ideal platform for networking stakeholders (producers and consumers), technology and marketing. The Doubling Farmers' Income by 2022 (DFI-2022) Report 2018 - Volume 12B - of the Government of India, have suggested reforms measures for income rise through strategic use of digital technology in farming system life cycle, and among the others, it recommends "Digitalized Value Chain" for about 400 agricultural commodities. The tropical fruits sector contributes greatly to national GDPs and is fast becoming a valuable trade commodity.

This Paper discusses the importance of establishing a "Tropical Fruits Informatics Network Value Chain" for farmers of the TFNet Member countries, to get connected with both domestic and international markets, and also for achieving sustainable farmers' income, through the adoption of digital transformation technologies.

Keywords: Tropical Fruits, Value Chain, Digital Technologies, Informatics Network, sustainable farmers' income, future smart FPO