ELIGIBILITY:

Bachelor's degree in agriculture or agriculture diploma with 5 years of field experiences. Proficiency in the English language is also required.

COURSE FEE:

Rs. 3000/= (Course material, internet facility, lunch and refreshments will be provided).

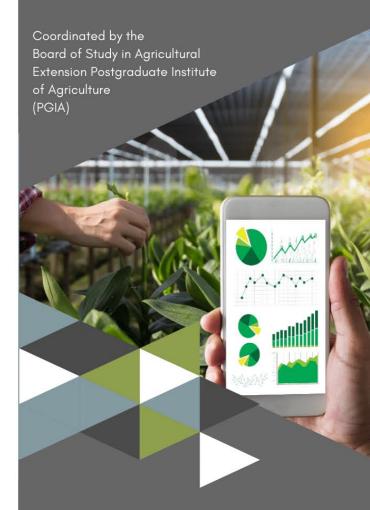## COURSE DURATION AND VENUE:

Weekly online sessions ended with a day session on-ground at the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture. After this students are required to complete a capping project with the assistance of graduate students. The report of the capping project can be submitted independently. The course is planned to offer in September – November 2022.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Dr. Uvasara Dissanayeke   071 406 6563
(Coordinator)
uvasara@agri.pdn.ac.lk

Ms. Ishani Herath   071 874 7344
(Tutor, BOS – Agricultural Extension)

Ms. Ranmalee Serasinghe   071 567 7005

SCHEDULE:

Session 1 -10: Offered Online (2 hrs per week)

Session 11-12: On-ground 11th November 2022 (9 am – 4 pm)

APPLICATION FORMS:

Application forms can be downloaded from the PGIA website (www.pgia.ac.lk).

The course fee can be paid,
- by a cheque (To: Director, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture) or
- at any branch of the Peoples' Bank (To: Current Account No: 057-1-001-3-1338027, Peradeniya Branch) or
- in person at the Shroff Counter at the PGIA.

The completed application forms along with a cheque /copy of the payment of full course fee should be sent by 15th August 2022 to:

Assistant Registrar, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), P. O. BOX 55, Old Galaha Road, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya.

Coordinated by the Board of Study in Agricultural Extension Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA)

SHORT COURSE ON

ICT STEWARDSHIP FOR AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION 2022

INTRODUCTION

A technology steward is someone who works with a community of practice to encourage the adoption and use of digital technologies for communications, training, and knowledge transfer. Technology Stewards need to know how to engage their community members to identify opportunities and challenges; they need to be able to acquire and configure appropriate digital ICT platforms to support innovative practices; and they need to be able to evaluate and report the outcome of their efforts back to the community and to organizational sponsors.

This course is designed to introduce practitioners to these basic skill sets and to equip them with the means necessary to begin an exploratory campaign using low cost ICTs with their own community of practice. The medium range goal of implementing a Technology Stewardship program is to promote experimentation with digital ICTs, and to build capacity for innovation within a community of practice. Technology Stewards should aim to create a culture of innovative thinking among their community members with the long term objective of enhancing the range of real choices.

This course was designed by a panel of instructors from the University of Alberta (Canada), University of Guelph (Canada), Wayamba University of Sri Lanka and University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

COURSE OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, participants should be able to:

1. Identify and describe the key principles and activities involved in technology stewardship for inclusive innovation;
2. Lead a community engagement activity to identify a key need or priority for a limited duration communication campaign using low cost technologies.
3. Plan, design, and implement a technology prototype and related activities needed to carry out a limited duration communication campaign using low cost technologies;
4. Plan, design, and implement an evaluation plan to assess and report on the outcome of the communication campaign and their involvement as a technology steward;

TARGET GROUP:

Early or mid-career professionals, Extensionists, Advisory Officers, and Development Officers in government, non-government and private sector organizations in agriculture, livestock production, agrarian development and allied fields. Expected number of participants is 30.

RESOURCE PERSONS:

- Prof. Gordon Gow, University of Alberta, Canada.
- Dr. Uvasara Dissanayeke, Department of Agricultural Extension, University of Peradeniya
- Dr. Chandana Jayathilake, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka

Dr. Gordon Gow

A Professor of Faculty of Extension and Faculty of Arts University of Alberta. He also serves as the Academic Director of the Graduate Program in Communications and Technology (MACT) in the Faculty of Extension at the University of Alberta (Canada). From 2003-2006 he was lecturer in the Department of Media and Communications at the London School of Economics, where he was Director of the Graduate Programme in Media and Communications Regulation and Policy. In 2016 he was awarded a McCalla Professorship at the University of Alberta. His research interests involve the social impact of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the areas of community engagement, public health, agriculture, and international development. He has been visiting Sri Lanka since 2005, collaborating on various research projects with LIRNEasia and Wayamba University of Sri Lanka. He is currently developing a Joint Education and Training Initiative with partners in Canada, Sri Lanka, and elsewhere to promote and study the adoption of low cost ICTs for communities of practice in areas such as agriculture and social support services.