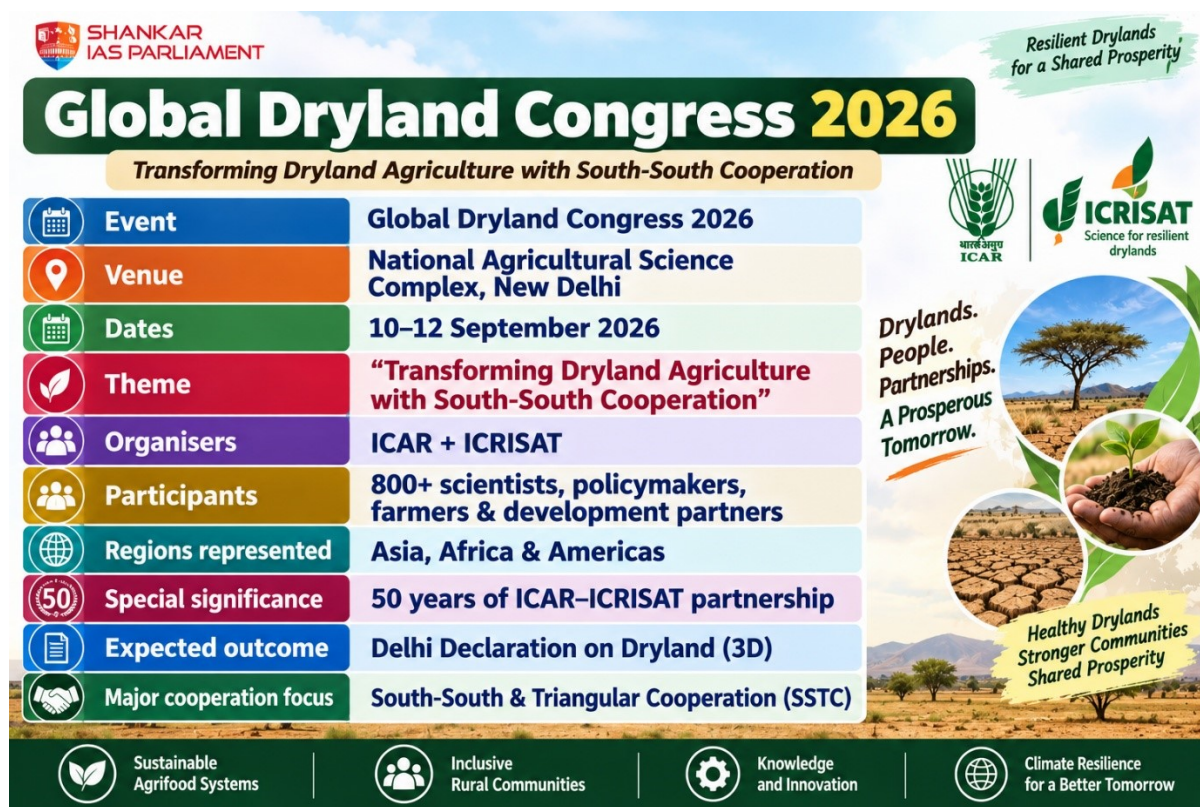


Global Dryland Congress 2026

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Environment

Why in News?

The Global Dryland Congress 2026, held in New Delhi, focuses on sustainable, climate-resilient dryland agriculture with scientists, policymakers, farmers, and partners.



SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT

Global Dryland Congress 2026

Transforming Dryland Agriculture with South-South Cooperation

	Event	Global Dryland Congress 2026
	Venue	National Agricultural Science Complex, New Delhi
	Dates	10–12 September 2026
	Theme	“Transforming Dryland Agriculture with South-South Cooperation”
	Organisers	ICAR + ICRISAT
	Participants	800+ scientists, policymakers, farmers & development partners
	Regions represented	Asia, Africa & Americas
	Special significance	50 years of ICAR–ICRISAT partnership
	Expected outcome	Delhi Declaration on Dryland (3D)
	Major cooperation focus	South-South & Triangular Cooperation (SSTC)

ICRISAT
Science for resilient drylands

ICAR

Drylands. People. Partnerships. A Prosperous Tomorrow.

Resilient Drylands for a Shared Prosperity

Healthy Drylands Stronger Communities Shared Prosperity

Sustainable Agrifood Systems | **Inclusive Rural Communities** | **Knowledge and Innovation** | **Climate Resilience for a Better Tomorrow**

Six Key Themes

- **Breeding** - Develop climate-resilient, high-yield, and nutrient-rich dryland crops, including millets, pulses, and oilseeds.
- **Climate Resilience** - Promote adaptation to drought, heat, and rainfall variability through conservation agriculture, soil moisture management, agroforestry, and risk management tools.
- **Nutrition and Markets** - Strengthen the connection between millets and pulses with nutrition, value chains, and fair pricing.
- **Farming Systems** - Implement integrated climate-smart systems that combine crops, livestock, trees, and water harvesting.
- **Seed Systems** - Strengthen both formal and informal seed networks, including public-

private partnerships, seed banks, and digital platforms.

- **Gender and Youth Inclusion** - Ensure women and youth have access to research, technology, credit, and markets, in alignment with the *International Year of Women Farmers 2026*.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

- It serves as the apex body for agricultural research and education in India.
- **Governing body** - Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- **Operates as** - An extensive network of research institutes, national research centres, and agricultural universities throughout India.

International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

- It is an international agricultural research institute within the CGIAR system.
- **Headquarters** - Hyderabad, India.
- **Objective** - To Conducts research on crops suited to semi-arid tropics, such as sorghum, pearl millet, chickpea, pigeon pea, and groundnut, as well as dryland farming systems.

50-Year Partnership

The Congress also marks the 50th anniversary of the ICAR-ICRISAT collaboration.

- This partnership has contributed to the following achievements:
 - Development of improved dryland crop varieties,
 - Implementation of climate-smart practices for smallholders,
 - Strengthening seed systems, farming systems, and policy frameworks in India and other developing countries.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC)

- On United Nations Day (12 September), dedicated sessions are held with CGIAR to discuss SSTC in agricultural research.
- **South-South cooperation** - It refers to collaboration among developing nations in agriculture, technology, health, and capacity building.
- **Triangular cooperation** - It involves a developed country or multilateral agency providing additional resources and expertise.
- **objectives** - To share dryland technologies and crop varieties, and to strengthen research, policy, and innovation across Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Reference

[DD India | Global Dryland Congress 2026](#)