

To,
The Agricultural Economics Society
AES Secretariat, Holtwood
Red Lion Street, Cropredy
Banbury, Oxon
OX17 1PD

**Subject: Application for Travel Bursary to Attend AES Annual Conference from 4th – 6th
April 2022, K U Leuven, Belgium**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am working as a scientist at ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi, India. I have completed my Ph.D. in the discipline of Agricultural Economics from ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. My priority research areas include, Assessment of Ecosystem services, Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Economics. Previously, I have estimated the potential economic and environmental impact of conservation agriculture in South Asia region by using meta-analysis and published two research papers in peer reviewed national and international journals. Currently, I am working on the research topic on 'Assessing Ecosystem Services from Sustainable Agricultural Management Practices', in which I am estimating the carbon sequestration and other ecosystem services and nutrient saving potential of key sustainable management practices. As a mitigation activity agriculture provides huge opportunity to capture atmospheric carbon through sustainable agricultural management practices. However, the contribution of these practices for enhancing ecosystem services are undervalued/not estimated and only limited benefits are given to farmers. Therefore, the objective of our study is to identify the practices which enhances the C sequestration and promotion of sustainable agricultural practices to combat climate change, conserve natural resources, and also to enhance livelihood of small holders in the region.

Being an young researcher and at early stage of my career as a scientist, it is rather difficult to obtain funding for conference expenses through a research grant. I am thankful, then, for the opportunity to apply for the travel bursary, which would enable me to attend the prestigious conference of Agricultural Economics Society. I am excited to work in the area of natural resource and environmental economics, and I feel that the opportunity to share my research work I have done and networking with pioneers in the field will be an excellent platform to establish myself and gain new insight into possible research interests. And also to have physical interaction on future research issues with pioneers in research. I am eagerly looking forward to attending the conference, and I kindly request that the selection committee of Agricultural Economics Society looks favourably on my application. I am eagerly looking forward to receiving travel bursary.

Sincerely,

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Kiran Kumara T M

Scientist,

ICAR-NIAP, New Delhi,

India-110012