

CIMA 2023 ATTENDEE REFLECTIONS



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I found the whole experience to be both professionally and personally rewarding. Attendance at any event involves three elements which contribute to the whole experience. I will present my reflections within this context.

Locations – what a breathtaking experience over eight days to be privileged to be hosted to and from Delhi railway station through two Indian states demonstrating extremely different topography and industries, two vibrant universities and local communities. These were wonderful experiences forming a unique backdrop to CIMA 2023.

Program – this was a most interesting series of events which reflected the culture and politics of our hosts. The online elements were, as usual often challenging for all involved but a necessary component. Those reflecting the individual work and vision of local Indian farmers to preserve local plant species and strains was inspiring. All the addresses about traditional Indian agricultural practices were fascinating, in particular the water management using tanks. The museums of Punjab Agricultural University had to be seen to be believed.

Participants – I gained much from casual conversations with those who also attended and also those organising the logistics and travel. Agriculture is such a broad area of study and it attracts passionate and committed people so spending time in company of these people one learns much and gains inspiration. Often a presentation would spark ideas and thoughts which conversations would return to on later days.

Conclusion

A most rewarding eight days and my thanks to Surajit and all those who made it happen.

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