



National Young Professionals Development Program on New Competencies, Career Opportunities and Research Priorities in Agricultural Extension

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

June 09-13, 2025

National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE)
Hyderabad

Program Objectives

- To explore the scope and untapped global opportunities in agricultural extension
- To identify possible job opportunities, essential skills and ways to develop better competencies

DAY 1: June 09, 2025

Session I: Introduction to the Training Program, New Competencies and Job Opportunities for Agricultural Extension, Research on Gender in Agriculture: Equality, Social Inclusion, and M&E

This session set the context for the program and provides an introduction to the evolving field of agricultural extension and highlights the new competencies required for extension professionals. The session emphasizes the importance of gender equality and social inclusion in research and practice, alongside the role of Monitoring and Evaluation and group exercise to understand the evolving agricultural extension and challenges

Duration	Particulars	Speaker/Activities
09.00-09.15	MANAGE at a Glance: Vision, Legacy and Impact	Team MANAGE
09.15-09.30	Journey with NYPDP: A Launchpad for Next-Gen Extension Professionals	Team MANAGE
09.30-10.00	Speed Networking: Meet Your Tribe	
10.00-11.00	Inauguration	Dr. Sagar Hanuman Singh, IPOS Director General MANAGE
11.00-11.30	Group Photo, Networking & High Tea	
11.30-13.00	New Competencies and Job Opportunities for Agricultural Extension	Dr. Saravanan Raj Director (Agricultural Extension) MANAGE

13.00-14.00	Lunch Break	
14.00-15.30	Research on Gender in Agriculture: Equality, Social Inclusion, M & E	Dr. Meghajit Sharma Shijagurumayum Post-Doctoral Fellow Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
15.30-16.00	Tea Break	
16.00-17.30	World Cafe	Group Participation
17.30-18.00	Learning Reflections	Participants
DAY 2: June 10, 2025		
Session II: ICTs & Digital Competencies for Agricultural Extension, Agri-Innovation through Incubation, Emerging Approaches in Measurement and Scaling, and Community Sustainable Extension		
This session focused on the transformative role of digital tools and ICTs in modern agricultural extension and covers advanced methods for measuring and scaling social research interventions. This session also covers Community Sustainable Extension experiences, highlighting the evolving roles of extension professionals in promoting climate-resilient, community-led development models		
09.00-09.30	Recap of Day 1	
09.30-11.00	ICTs & Digital Competencies for Agricultural Extension: Navigating New Frontiers	Dr. Saravanan Raj Director (Agricultural Extension) MANAGE
11.00-11.30	Tea Break	
11.30-12.00	Value Chain Extension and Advisory Services- Network Approach	Anamika Sharma MANAGE Intern
12.00-13.00	Emerging Approaches in Measurement and Scaling in Social Research	Dr. Sethuraman Sivakumar Principal Scientist (Agricultural Extension) CTCRI
13.00-14.00	Lunch break	
14.00- 15.00	Agricultural Extension Research for Ecological Agriculture	Dr. Ramanjaneyulu Executive Director Centre for Sustainable Agriculture (CSA)
15.00-15.30	Tea break	
15.30-16.30	Community Sustainable Extension – CSA Experiences and Changing Roles of Extension	Dr. Ramanjaneyulu Executive Director Centre for Sustainable Agriculture (CSA)
16.30-17.30	Policy Engagement for Agricultural Extension	Dr. Rasheed Sulaiman Director CRISP

17.30-18.00	Learning Reflections	Participants
DAY 3: June 11, 2025		
Session III: Visit to Access Livelihoods, Extension for Organic Farming, Gender equality and Entrepreneurship		
This session offers a comprehensive learning experience, including insightful visits to the NGO Access Livelihoods and also emphasizes the growing importance of organic farming and the need for gender-equitable extension approaches to ensure inclusive agricultural growth and how incubation centers drive agri-innovation and entrepreneurship among rural youth and farmers		
09.00-09.30	Recap of Day 2	
09.30-11.30	Visit to Access Livelihoods Consulting (ALC) Access Livelihoods (AL) is a social enterprise that work with marginalised communities to reimagine their livelihoods. AL offers end-to-end support to the marginalised communities, implementations of sustainable agriculture practices, value chain extension, innovative models highlighting the role of extension services beyond the transfer of technology and efforts in promoting Community Extension and Entrepreneurship Systems. AL partners with more than 65,000 marginalised producers, including small and marginal farmers, weavers, tribal, and small livestock holders.	ALC, Hyderabad
13.00-14.00	Lunch break	
14.00-15.30	Extension for Organic Farming, Entrepreneurship and Gender Equality	Dr. Mahesh Chander Principal Scientist IVRI
15.30-16.00	Tea break	
16.00-17.30	Democratising Innovation and Technology Transfer: Agri-Innovation through Incubation and Startups	Dr. Saravanan Raj Director (Agricultural Extension) MANAGE
17.30-18.00	Learning Reflections	
18.00-18.30	Empowering Indigenous Food Systems	Divina Matla MANAGE Intern
19.00-20.00	Pre-Dinner Session	
DAY 4: June 12, 2025		
Session IV: Career Opportunities in Extension Education and Experiences from KVK, NGO, FPCs		
This session covers diverse career avenues in extension education across academic and research, development. Participants can gain insights into roles and opportunities within Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), non-governmental organizations, FPCs. A visit to C-DAC provides participants with a unique opportunity to understand practical approaches in community development, livelihood enhancement, and technological advancements		

08.00-09.00	Graduate Study and Career Opportunities in Extension Education and Evaluation in the United States	Dr. Vikram Koundinya Associate Professor of Extension & Evaluation Specialist University of California, Davis & Ms. Samrat Sikdar, Ph.D Scholar Mississippi State University & Ms. Laxmi Prasanna Kandi Ph.D Scholar Texas A&M University, USA
09.00-10.00	Experiences, Dilemmas, Role of Mentorship, Challenges and Ways to Overcome Them	Dr. Parmveer Singh Postdoctoral Fellow University of Saskatchewan, Canada
10.00-11.00	Exploring Methodological Landscapes: From Traditional Approaches to Next-Gen Research Methods	Dr. S Raahalya MANAGE Fellow
11.00-11.30	Tea break	
11.30-13.00	New Competencies, Career Opportunities, and Research Priorities in Agricultural Extension - Experiences from NGOs, I-NGOs, KVKs & FPCs	Dr. Arun Balamatti Senior Manager ICRISAT
13.00-14.00	Lunch break	
14.00-17.30	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) The centre is a Knowledge Centre with the components of Knowledge Creation, Knowledge Dissemination, and Knowledge Application to grow in the areas of Research & Development, Training, Services, Outreach, and Business respectively. C-DAC is also actively contributing through ICT for social development initiatives, particularly in the fields of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Blockchain technology, Machine Learning (ML), and Big Data in Agriculture. Participants can learn about various software applications developed specifically for agricultural purposes	C-DAC, Hyderabad
17.30-20.00	Exploring Hyderabad	

DAY 5: June 13, 2025**Session V: Exploring Research Trends, Monitoring & Evaluation, and Focus Group Discussion Techniques for Extension Professionals**

This session emphasises the need to align research priorities in agricultural extension with emerging field challenges and stakeholder needs. It highlights essential Monitoring & Evaluation competencies for extension professionals to design, implement, and hands-on demonstration of Focus Group Discussion (FGD) methods. The session conclude with strategies for policy engagement, empowering extensionists to contribute to evidence-based agricultural policymaking

09.00-09.15	Recap of Day 4	
09.15-10.00	Research Priorities in Agricultural Extension	Dr. Saravanan Raj Director (Agricultural Extension) MANAGE
10.00 -10.30	Tea Break	
10.30-12.00	Monitoring & Evaluation: Competencies for Extension Professionals	Dr. P. V. K. Sasidhar Professor School of Extension and Development Studies IGNOU, New Delhi
12.00 -13.00	Methods to Conduct Focus Group Discussion – Demonstration	
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch break	
14.00 -14.30	Role of Agri-Tech Startups in Driving Innovation and Transformation	Iniya V MANAGE Intern
14.30- 15.30	Sharing Insights	Participants and Team MANAGE
15.30 -16.00	Tea break	
16.00 -18.00	Take Home Message and Action Plan	Participants and Team MANAGE

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