



MANAGE Internship: Cultivating Experiences for Future Professionals



My Internship Journey: Learning & Unlocking Potential

I am Arvind Singh Rao from Chittaurgarh, Rajasthan. I recently completed Masters in Agricultural Extension from College of Post Graduate Studies in Agricultural Sciences, Central Agricultural University (CAU, Imphal) Umiam, Meghalaya.

 [Arvind Singh Rao](#)



As a student of Agricultural Extension, I didn't had much familiarity with agri-startups and the startup ecosystem before joining this internship. However, I always had a keen interest in learning about startups and agripreneurship. When I saw the notification that MANAGE is offering this kind of internship, I felt like it will be a great opportunity for me to explore more about this field and work in the Agri-startup ecosystem.

I was really excited when I got the news of my selection. My main motivation for joining the internship was to gain a better understanding and exposure to the agri-startup ecosystem. I expected to learn about the latest trends in agri-startups, the kind of innovations happening, and to build connections with different stakeholders in the agri-startup ecosystem.

I was particularly excited to work with Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension) guidance, given his renowned expertise in Agricultural Extension. I believed it would be a valuable learning experience that would positively impact my personal and professional growth. Upon arriving at MANAGE, I felt like I had finally reached my dream destination and was excited to begin my internship.

Internship Experience

At the beginning of my internship, I felt that the assigned work wasn't aligned with my interests. But, later on I realized that "interest is just a matter of perspective" and then I changed my perspective towards my assigned work, and seriously I started enjoying my work. Under the guidance of Dr. Saravanan Raj, has always motivated me to work more on myself.



During the internship, I got the chance to take on various responsibilities that helped me learn a lot. I interacted with several incubated startups to track their funding and progress and worked on documenting their success stories. Along with that, I coordinated the "Capacity Building Training Programme for Agricultural Value Addition and Marketing Linkages" for Ministry of Trade and Industry officials of Malawi" funded by Ministry of Trade and Industry, Government of Malawi. I also coordinated field visits for participants to well-known institutions in Telangana like National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ni-msme), Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP), J-Farm, Millet Processing And Incubation Centre, Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU), Centre of Excellence for Fruits, Department of Horticulture, Mulugu, and Post Harvest Technology Laboratory, College of Horticulture, Mojerla.



The learning environment at MANAGE-CIA was truly enriching, positive, and motivating. It offered a great mix of theoretical knowledge and hands-on experience with the agri-startup ecosystem.

I got the opportunity to learn about various national and international programs like the "Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Training Program" funded by Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, "Commercialization of Horticulture Technologies for Entrepreneurship Development" Training Program funded by Department of Horticulture, Government of Odisha, Incubation (Cohort) Program, Pre-Incubation Mentoring Program, and the "Capacity Building Training Programme for Agricultural Value Addition and Marketing Linkages" for Ministry of Trade and Industry officials of Malawi" funded by Ministry of Trade and Industry, Government of Malawi. The constant support from mentors and the friendly, collaborative atmosphere with the team and fellow interns helped me explore new ideas, learn freely, and grow both personally and professionally. This environment really helped me improve my confidence, communication skills, and overall development.

One of the highlights of my internship was coordinating the 8th Pre-Incubation Mentoring Program at MANAGE-CIA. I got to interact with aspiring agripreneurs, experts, and startups. It was a valuable learning experience that gave a big boost to my confidence and professional journey.

Skills and Knowledge Gained

Completing each assigned task during the internship helped me develop a variety of skills. The program improved my communication skills, especially while interacting with different startups. Being part of the Pre-incubation Mentoring Program helped me learn event management, and writing success stories improved my technical writing skills. These experiences have boosted my confidence and given me a strong foundation for the future.



I also had the opportunity to take part in the "Video Production Skills for Agricultural Extension" training program, which helped me enhance my video production and social media handling skills.



During my internship, I received constant support and encouragement from my internship in-charge, Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension). He always motivated me to think creatively and work more efficiently. I also got valuable guidance from Ms. Usha Sree (Manager), Mr. Saurabh Kumar (Business Executive), Ms. K.J. Josephine (Content Developer), and other MANAGE-CIA team members like Dr. Raahalya, Mr. Srinivas, Mr. Karunakar and Ms. Priyanka. I feel truly grateful to have had such amazing co-interns—Maithri, Sonam, and Jeena. Their support, encouragement, and helpful feedback made every task easier and more enjoyable. Working with them helped me grow both professionally and personally.

The most admirable aspect of the internship was the positive, nurturing, and empowering environment at MANAGE-CIA. It gave me exposure to diverse real-world programs and consistently pushed me to grow beyond my comfort zone. This internship was a turning point in my professional journey. It helped me connect what I learned in academics with real-world experience. I developed important soft skills, improved my confidence, and grew both personally and professionally.





My time at MANAGE-CIA fully met my expectations. It gave me a clear understanding of the agri-startup ecosystem, introduced me to various programs, and helped me improve my professional abilities. I got the chance to interact with different stakeholders, organize events, and work in a fast-paced environment.

More than just a learning experience, this internship was truly transformational. It helped me grow into a more confident and capable individual with a good mix of knowledge and practical understanding.

I'm truly thankful to MANAGE, MANAGE-CIA, and Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension) for giving me this opportunity. It has laid a strong foundation for my future career in agricultural development and extension.

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