



National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP)
on
“New Competencies, Career Opportunities and Research Priorities
in Agricultural Extension”

Journey Beyond NYPDP

Alumni Experiences



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Hello, I'm Prashil Kamble, currently working as an Assistant Professor (Agricultural Extension), RAWE Coordinator, and NSS Program Officer at the College of Agriculture, Konghara, Maharashtra. I had the opportunity to participate in the National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP) at Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Thrissur, while pursuing my Master's degree last year.

Impact on Personal life

NYPDP focused on new competencies, career pathways, and dimensions in extension. It opened an entirely new horizon for me—extension was no longer just a subject, but an art that could transform the lives of small and marginal farmers. One of the biggest learnings was to conduct farmer/beneficiary-centric research rather than institute-centric research. This has reshaped my academic outlook, and today my research is focused on gender in agriculture, recognizing that the needs of men and women farmers are diverse and distinct.

Impact on Research/Academic Path

In my current role, I apply these insights by making RAWE activities more gender sensitive. For example, we plan demonstrations considering women's timings, and when needed, organize separate sessions for women to ensure inclusivity.

Another major takeaway was the importance of policy advocacy and engagement through research implications—something I had never fully understood before. NYPDP also exposed us to emerging opportunities through FPOs and Agri-startups, which today are creating promising career avenues for extension professionals, often more lucrative than traditional academic roles.

Networking Benefits

The networking opportunities during NYPDP were invaluable. I built connections with extension professionals across the country, and these networks now support me in research guidance, collaborations, and even interview preparation for national institutes. Beyond professional growth, this network also helped me appreciate the rich cultural diversity of India.

Personal Reflection

If I had to name one key turning point, it would be the realization of the power of networking—not just for personal growth, but for creating large-scale impact in farming communities. It also helped me discover my deeper purpose in agriculture: working for gender equity in extension.

Today, I see my career with infinite possibilities—in extension, sociology, psychology, and policy. I believe that investing in continuous learning and experience is the path to both success and peace. I also carry forward one core lesson: quality research comes first, publications will follow. Above all, I have learned to truly love extension as a subject and as a way of serving society.



Mr. Prashil Kamble Participated in the MANAGE-NYPDP at Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Thrissur during September 30 to October 5, 2024.