



National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP)

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

Reflections That Cultivate Tomorrow's Agricultural Extension



From Insight to Impact: My Transformative Journey through NYPDP

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Hyderabad during April 22-26, 2024.

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The NYPDP at MANAGE, Hyderabad, was a highly enriching and transformative experience. It provided me with a multidimensional understanding of leadership development, communication skills, project planning, innovation in agriculture, and professional ethics. The sessions were thoughtfully curated to sharpen both technical competencies and soft skills essential for a successful career in Agricultural Extension and rural development.

Day 1: The inaugural day set the tone with insightful orientations and introductory sessions. We were briefed on MANAGE's legacy and the broader vision of the NYPDP. Ice-breaking activities helped build camaraderie among participants from diverse regions. Sessions on emotional intelligence and self-awareness laid a strong foundation for personal and professional growth.



Day 2: We delved into the core themes of effective communication and leadership. Resource persons emphasized participatory extension approaches and the importance of adaptability in leadership. Interactive discussions and group exercises highlighted the role of empathy, listening skills, and clarity in communication, crucial traits when working with farming communities.

Day 3: This day focused on innovation, technology integration, and entrepreneurship in agriculture. We explored case studies of successful agri-startups and digital extension tools. The sessions expanded my perspective on how extension professionals can act as facilitators of innovation, encouraging farmers to adopt modern and sustainable practices.

Day 4: Sessions on project formulation, proposal writing, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) were conducted. These were highly practical and provided exposure to real-world formats and expectations. I found the session on logic models and outcome mapping particularly useful, as these tools will directly support my future fieldwork and research planning.

Day 5: The concluding day was devoted to presentations, feedback, and reflections. Participants shared their learning experiences, and I had the opportunity to articulate my own growth throughout the program. A sense of collective accomplishment and forward-looking optimism was evident in the group.

Change in Perspective

Before attending the program, I viewed extension largely through a theoretical and academic lens. The NYPDP reshaped this view by demonstrating the real-time challenges and opportunities in the field. I now recognize the critical importance of soft skills, behavioral change strategies, and stakeholder engagement in successful extension work.

Training Environment

MANAGE provided a highly conducive learning environment, with excellent infrastructure, knowledgeable resource persons, and smooth logistical arrangements. The campus culture was intellectually stimulating and professionally motivating. Peer learning was also a standout aspect of the experience.

What I Appreciate



I deeply appreciated the systematic organization of the program, the diversity of topics covered, the enthusiasm and approachability of the faculty, and the opportunity to engage with like-minded young professionals. The hospitality and support extended by the MANAGE team were commendable.



Main Takeaway

The NYPDP reaffirmed my commitment to agricultural extension as a powerful tool for rural transformation. My most significant takeaway is the importance of developing a balanced skill set, combining technical knowledge with leadership, communication, and innovative thinking, to effectively serve the farming community.

My MANAGE NYPDP Journey

My journey through the MANAGE-NYPDP has been truly transformative. It was not merely a training program but a platform for introspection, learning, and vision building. I return with renewed motivation, a broader outlook, and a stronger sense of purpose. I am grateful for the opportunity and confident that the learnings from this program will serve as a cornerstone in my professional journey ahead.

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