



National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP)

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

Reflections That Cultivate Tomorrow's Agricultural Extension



"Blending Innovation and Inclusion: A Transformational Journey in Agricultural Extension"

Dr. Pradeep Kumar Yadav,

Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (RAJUVAS),
Bikaner during February 10-14, 2025.

 [Dr Pradeep Kumar Yadav](#)

Day 1: New Competencies and Job Opportunities in Agricultural Extension

The program commenced with a powerful keynote address by Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director of MANAGE. He emphasized the critical need to develop new competencies such as digital literacy, data analysis, and communication skills in agricultural extension. He also highlighted promising job avenues like agricultural consultancy, extension education, and roles in rural development.



Day 2: Livelihood Development in Agricultural Extension

Dr. B.L. Manjunathan from CAZRI, Jodhpur, delivered a highly engaging session on sustainable livelihoods and rural entrepreneurship. His talk focused on climate-resilient agriculture and the integration of extension efforts to improve livelihoods in rural communities.

Day 3: Graduate Study and Career Opportunities in Extension Education in the U.S.

Ms. Sravani Reddy and Dr. Vikram Kaundinya provided an insightful overview of the U.S. extension education system. They shared practical guidance on graduate studies, funding options, and career prospects abroad, answering participants' questions and raising awareness about global opportunities.

Day 4: Evaluation and Monitoring & Focus Group Discussions

Dr. P.V.K. Sasidhar led a practical session on monitoring and evaluation techniques. We learned how to assess the effectiveness of extension programs and received training in conducting focus group discussions, a crucial skill for participatory research.

Day 5: Extension for Entrepreneurship and Gender Equality

Dr. Mahesh Chander, Principal Scientist at IVRI, concluded the program with an inspiring talk on integrating entrepreneurship and gender equality into extension. He emphasized empowering women and marginalized groups, drawing from his extensive field experience.

Training Experience

The five-day NYPDP journey was enlightening and transformative. Each day added value to my academic and professional outlook. The sessions were highly interactive, knowledge-intensive, and practical in approach.

Change in Perspective

Absolutely. The training reshaped my understanding of extension as a dynamic and multidimensional field. It's not just about disseminating information, but about building capacities, enabling livelihoods, and driving social change.

Training Environment

The atmosphere was collaborative and intellectually stimulating. Interactions with experts and peers from different states created an enriching learning environment that encouraged open dialogue and innovation.

What I Appreciate



The balance of theory and practice, along with the personal engagement of resource persons, was highly commendable. The exposure to national and international opportunities was especially valuable.

Networking

The platform provided excellent opportunities for networking. Interactions with fellow scholars from diverse backgrounds led to the exchange of ideas, collaboration prospects, and a shared sense of purpose in agricultural development.

Main Takeaway

Understanding the global scope and evolving competencies required in agricultural extension. The idea that we must adapt as professionals to serve farmers more effectively in a digital, climate-sensitive era stands out.

Action Plan

I intend to integrate digital tools, participatory techniques like FGDs, and gender-sensitive approaches in my future research and fieldwork. I will also explore global education and collaborative research opportunities discussed during the training.



My MANAGE NYPDP Journey

"A milestone experience that blended innovation, inclusivity, and inspiration, MANAGE NYPDP ignited a deeper commitment within me to serve as a change agent in agricultural extension."

Dr. Pradeep Kumar Yadav

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