



National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP)

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

Reflections That Cultivate Tomorrow's Agricultural Extension



Seeds for Future Extension Revolution: Revitalization

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Participated in the MANAGE-NYPDP at MANAGE, Hyderabad during March 24-28, 2025.

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As a young scholar passionate about agricultural development, being a part of the National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP), organized by MANAGE, was nothing short of transformative. The five-day training program on “*New Competencies, Career Opportunities, and Research Priorities in Agricultural Extension*” opened new doors of thought, reflection, and purpose for me as an emerging professional in this field. It was an enriching, eye-opening journey filled with knowledge sharing, collaboration, and inspiration. The program blended theoretical insights with practical applications, keeping us engaged and motivated throughout.

Key Learnings



- Gained a foundational understanding of the changing landscape in agricultural extension, with a focus on policy frameworks and institutional innovation.
- Explored digital extension tools and how ICT is revolutionizing communication between farmers and extension workers.
- Learned about entrepreneurship in agriculture and how startups and agri-business models can empower rural youth.
- Focused on research priorities, emerging methodologies, and interdisciplinary approaches in extension.
- Reflected on future competencies, career pathways, and how to prepare ourselves for dynamic extension roles.

Training Experience



Discovering a New Dimension in Extension

Each day of the NYPDP unfolded a new chapter in the evolving landscape of agricultural extension. From policy shifts and digital transformation to entrepreneurial opportunities and research frontiers, the sessions were comprehensive and thought-provoking.

Day one laid the foundation by highlighting the changing dynamics in extension systems. On the second day, we delved into ICT tools and the growing importance of digital extension. The third day's emphasis on agripreneurship introduced me to powerful case studies of innovation at the grassroots level. The final two days focused on research priorities and the competencies needed for the future. We discussed interdisciplinary approaches, real-world extension challenges, and how academic research can align with field realities. This holistic approach allowed me to connect theory with practice in a meaningful way.

Change in Perspective

Shifting Mindsets and Empowering Visions

The NYPDP reshaped my understanding of agricultural extension. I began to see extension not just as a top-down information delivery model, but as a collaborative, participatory process where farmers, researchers, and field workers co-create solutions. It also emphasized the entrepreneurial dimension of extension, something I had not deeply considered before.

Main Takeaway

One of my biggest takeaways from the program is the realization that extension professionals are change agents. We are not just knowledge transmitters; we are enablers, facilitators, and visionaries who help shape the future of agriculture.



Training Environment



A Learning Environment that Inspired Growth

The atmosphere at NYPDP was warm, intellectually rich, and highly engaging. Each speaker brought a unique perspective, and the use of interactive formats made learning dynamic. Whether it was through open discussions, case presentations, or peer group activities, the training never felt passive. One of the most appreciated aspects was the opportunity to interact with fellow scholars from across the country. These peer exchanges were both insightful and energizing. We came from different agro-climatic zones, research interests, and institutions, yet we shared a common goal, to transform Indian agriculture through innovative extension practices.



Action Plan

Carrying the Learning Forward

Going forward, I plan to integrate participatory extension methods, digital tools, and an entrepreneurial approach into both my research and fieldwork. The NYPDP experience has strengthened my resolve to work closely with rural youth and farming communities, promoting sustainable, inclusive, and innovative agricultural practices.





To MANAGE, I extend my sincere gratitude for this opportunity. Initiatives like NYPDP are crucial for nurturing the next generation of extension professionals and leaders. I look forward to staying connected with the MANAGE family and contributing to the larger goal of agricultural transformation in India.

"An inspiring journey that connected minds, built competencies, and prepared me to serve as a catalyst for change in agricultural extension."

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