



National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP)

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

Reflections That Cultivate Tomorrow's Agricultural Extension



Reimagining Extension: Reflections from the NYPDP Experience

Samruddhi Bhimrao Rathod

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

 [samruddhi-bhimrao-rathod](https://www.linkedin.com/in/samruddhi-bhimrao-rathod)

Key Learnings

- Gained a fresh perspective on the vast and dynamic nature of agricultural extension. The orientation helped me appreciate the value of being part of a vibrant community of young professionals.
- Exploring policies, governance, and the broader extension landscape clarified how deeply this work is connected to farmers' lives.
- Discovered emerging research trends and career paths, particularly in digital extension and participatory research, which I had not previously considered.
- Group activities and interactions enhanced my confidence in expressing ideas, engaging in thoughtful debates, and listening with openness.
- The final day was especially emotional, it brought everything full circle. The collective reflections and feedback renewed my sense of purpose.

Training Experience

The program was energizing and thought-provoking, a true turning point. I felt seen, heard, and consistently motivated throughout the experience.



Change in Perspective

Previously, I saw extension primarily as field visits and demonstrations. Now, I understand it also encompasses research, strategic communication, and policy advocacy, all essential to improving rural livelihoods.

Training Environment

The environment felt safe, supportive, and conducive to growth. There was a spirit of warmth, encouragement, and shared curiosity. It never felt like a typical lecture, it was alive, engaging, and participatory.



What I Appreciate

The people. From the resource persons to fellow participants, everyone brought something valuable to the table. The sessions curated by MANAGE were timely, relevant, and impactful.



Networking

I connected with scholars and professionals from across India who share my passion for extension. We exchanged ideas, shared experiences, and built genuine connections. I believe this community will remain strong well beyond the program.

Main Takeaway

I am not alone on this journey. There are countless ways to contribute to agricultural extension, through research, fieldwork, communication, or policy.

Action Plan

I am motivated to explore participatory research and value-chain development, especially in underserved communities such as the Banjara. I also intend to apply the knowledge gained in policy and communication to help bridge institutional gaps and better serve rural populations.



My MANAGE NYPDP Journey

A powerful blend of learning, unlearning, and reimagining my role in agricultural extension. This experience gave me hope, clarity, and a stronger voice.

Ms. Samruddhi Bhimrao Rathod

Ph.D. Agricultural Extension Education
Department of Agricultural Extension Education
Post Graduate Institute
Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth
Akola, Maharashtra
e-mail: samruddhirathod90@gmail.com

MANAGE - Center for Agricultural Extension Innovations, Reforms and Agripreneurship (MANAGE- CAEIRA)
National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE)
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad- 500 030, INDIA
<https://www.manage.gov.in/caeira/caeira.asp>



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