



## National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP)

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

### Reflections That Cultivate Tomorrow's Agricultural Extension



#### Learning, Connecting, Growing: A Glimpse into the NYPDP at MANAGE

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

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## Key Learnings

- No one can stop you from achieving your goals. Just get up, do what excites you most, and strive for greatness.
- Reading is key to building the skills and competencies needed to thrive in the field of Extension Education.
- If you're passionate about improving rural livelihoods, you must work at the grassroots level to understand their challenges and provide meaningful solutions.
- Marketing and selling agricultural produce is crucial for profitability. You need to tap into your entrepreneurial mindset to stay relevant in the market.
- Gained practical knowledge of various Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks, as well as how to conduct Focus Group Discussions effectively.



## Training Experience

My five-day training experience was truly fantastic and enriching. It wasn't just about acquiring knowledge, it broadened my entire perspective on extension education. The sessions were insightful and provided opportunities to interact with some of the most inspiring experts in the field. The training made me realize that there's still so much more to learn and achieve, and that I need to tap into my full potential to become the best version of myself. The hostel facilities and food were excellent, making the stay comfortable and enjoyable. Overall, this was an impactful experience that left a lasting impression on both my personal and professional growth.

## Change in Perspective

Absolutely. Before the training, I viewed agricultural extension as a local discipline with limited scope, mostly tied to roles like ARS, DAATTC, KVK scientists, or assistant professors. However, this training completely transformed my understanding. I now see extension as a dynamic and global field, full of diverse opportunities and evolving competencies. It's not just about securing a job, it's about continually building skills, adapting to new challenges, and positioning yourself for growth. This experience opened my eyes to the broader impact and potential of extension education.

## What I Appreciate

What I appreciated most was the diversity of learning opportunities. While every session added value, the discussions on AI in agriculture, entrepreneurship in extension, and the Focus Group Discussions led by Dr. P. V. K. Sasidhar stood out. These sessions were not only insightful but also thought-provoking, encouraging me to move beyond conventional thinking and explore innovative solutions in agricultural extension.

## Networking

The peer interactions and networking opportunities significantly boosted my self-confidence and English communication skills. Collaborating with participants from various universities, states, and sectors brought fresh perspectives and enriched my learning.



A major takeaway was understanding the power of LinkedIn as a modern professional tool, essentially an online resume in today's digital age. This experience highlighted the importance of building meaningful connections and continuously developing oneself.

## Training Environment

The training environment was vibrant, energizing, and intellectually enriching. It featured insightful lectures, engaging discussions, and dynamic group activities. Surrounded by inspiring personalities and like-minded peers, the experience fostered deep connections and collaborative learning. The positive atmosphere, excellent hospitality, delicious food, and comfortable accommodation made for a highly motivating and supportive space for both personal and professional growth.

## Main Takeaway

The biggest takeaway from this training is that learning should never stop. The moment we stop learning, we halt our growth. Achieving great things requires us to embrace responsibility, staying committed, curious, and always evolving. This program reminded me of the importance of continuous self-improvement and lifelong learning, both personally and professionally.

## Action Plan



Currently engaged in M.Sc. research, I plan to apply the skills and insights gained from this program to reshape my academic approach. I intend to align my work more closely with policy engagement and aim to publish in high-impact journals, rather than focusing solely on NAAS ratings.

The training taught me to think critically, design thoughtful studies, collect high-quality data, and analyze it meaningfully to generate impactful findings. This shift in mindset will guide my future academic and professional journey.

## My MANAGE NYPDP Journey

My MANAGE NYPDP journey has been nothing short of transformative. It was a powerful blend of learning, self-discovery, inspiration, and connection. From interacting with eminent experts to building friendships with like-minded peers, every moment added value. It not only broadened my understanding of extension education but also ignited a deeper sense of purpose and responsibility. This journey helped me grow in meaningful ways, personally and professionally, and I will always cherish it.

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