



National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP)

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

Reflections That Cultivate Tomorrow's Agricultural Extension



My Journey to unfold the knowledge of Extension

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Participated in the MANAGE-NYPDP at MANAGE Hyderabad during June 09-13, 2025.

 [Vinayak Itnal](#)

It had always been my dream to be trained at MANAGE, and this program gave me the golden opportunity to step into that dream, learning on campus, immersed in topics closely related to my subject. As someone who has just begun their journey as a research scholar in Agricultural Extension Education, this training felt like diving into a vast ocean. I realized there's still so much to explore, conquer, and learn.

Key Learnings

Day 1 began with introductions and an inspiring session by Dr. Saravanan Raj, who emphasized the importance of celebrating even the small things. He introduced us to the different competencies required in our subject. In the following days, we explored the use of ICT tools in agricultural extension, entrepreneurial opportunities, and various schemes that support innovation in agriculture. I also gained clarity on research methodologies, including different scales and measurements vital for academic work.

Dr. Rasheed Sulaiman's session on policy engagement highlighted the critical role of extension professionals in policymaking. His impactful delivery style left a lasting impression. Dr. Ramanjaneyulu opened our eyes to the future of agriculture through his talk on Ecological Farming and emphasized the evolving responsibilities of extension professionals.



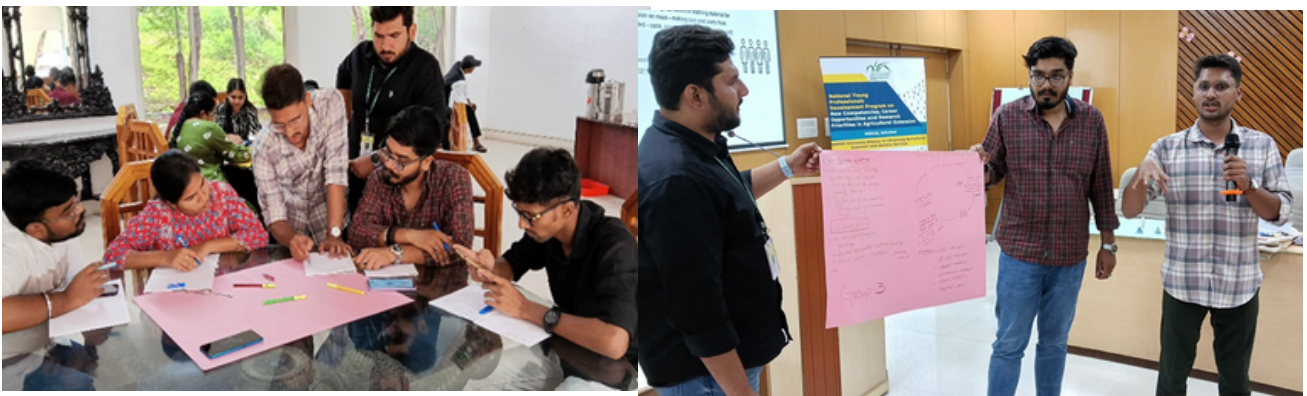
A visit to Access Livelihoods helped us understand NGO functioning at the grassroots, particularly in mobilizing communities for sustainable, community-based agriculture.





One of the most empowering sessions was on the use of AI tools for academic research. We were introduced to platforms, apps, and websites that offer free access to a wide array of scholarly resources. Dr. P.V.K. Sasidhar's session on Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) was a turning point for me. I once believed evaluation wasn't for me, but his practical insights completely changed that perspective.

Training Experience



This five-day journey was eye-opening, energizing, and deeply educational. Each day brought new thoughts and broadened our understanding of extension and research. The sessions were thoughtfully designed, interactive, insightful, and practical.

Change in Perspective

My view of Agricultural Extension changed completely. I no longer see it as just transferring information to farmers. It now appears as a multifaceted domain, involving gender inclusion, social development, participatory approaches, and livelihood enhancement.



Training Environment

The hospitality at MANAGE was commendable. The environment fostered peer learning, collaboration, and open dialogue. It truly was a well-created platform that brought together passionate individuals from across India.

What I Appreciate



What stood out was MANAGE's thoughtfulness in including students in such advanced training programs, a rare and admirable initiative. The selection of expert speakers, the balanced combination of theory and practice, and the overall learning design were excellent.

Networking

This platform enabled meaningful interaction with M.Sc. students, Ph.D. scholars, young faculty, and SMS from various universities, colleges, and KVKs. These exchanges enriched my learning, provided diverse insights, and reinforced the power of academic and professional networking in building a future-ready career.



Main Takeaway



- Celebrate even small achievements, they become treasured memories and future motivation.
- Embrace technology and shift towards demand-driven extension practices.
- Continuously update skills and competencies to remain relevant in a rapidly evolving sector.

Action Plan

- Read fundamental texts in Agricultural Extension to strengthen foundational knowledge.
- Apply Monitoring & Evaluation techniques in my research, recognizing their importance and manageability.
- Focus my research on pressing social issues, which often lead to impactful, real-world contributions.

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