



# National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP)

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

## Reflections That Cultivate Tomorrow's Agricultural Extension



### A Transformative Journey of Professional and Personal Growth: NYPDP Reflections

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Participated in the MANAGE-NYPDP at Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Thrissur during September 30 to October 5, 2024.

 [prashil-kamble](#)

## Key Learnings

The training was incredibly enriching for me. I discovered the *Journal of Agricultural Extension Education* and learned about collaborative research spanning regions and countries. I realized the importance of focusing on beneficiaries' needs and communicating effectively. I also gained insights into Social Network Analysis (SNA), the role of policy in agricultural development, and exciting fellowships related to policy engagement.



## Training Experience

I would describe this five-day training as one of the best experiences of my life. The knowledge I gained, the connections I made, and the beautiful environment of Kerala Agricultural University will always hold a special place in my heart. I built not only personal but also valuable professional relationships. The food, people, and culture of Kerala were truly wonderful and added to the richness of the experience.



## Change in Perspective

This training gave me a fresh perspective on agricultural extension. I now see it as a meaningful and purposeful field, one that can drive positive change in farmers' lives through policy engagement, the promotion of gender equality, need-based research, and a commitment to agro-biodiversity.

## What I Appreciate

I deeply appreciate the resource persons who guided us throughout the training. They were clearly experts in their respective fields and brought immense value to every session. Through peer interactions, I connected with individuals from some of India's most prestigious institutions. This network helped me enhance my communication, research, and critical thinking skills.



## Main Takeaway

My most significant takeaway was realizing that acknowledging emotions is not a sign of weakness, but a demonstration of strength and emotional intelligence. I also learned that facing our fears by challenging assumptions is essential for personal growth.





## Action Plan



I am now actively applying the knowledge and skills gained from this training in my daily life. I've seen improvements in my communication, collaboration, and leadership abilities. These tools will also guide my future research. My focus has now shifted to emerging areas in extension, including gender, agro-ecosystems, supply chains, policy engagement, and agro-biodiversity.

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