

MANAGE Internship: Cultivating Experiences for Future Professionals



Pathway to Excellence: My Transformative Journey at MANAGE

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As a student of Agricultural Extension and Communication, my primary motive for applying to this internship was to gain practical learning and enhance my communication and presentation skills. I aspired to contribute to and work with a reputed institution like MANAGE, and I truly believed there was no better platform than MANAGE to shape my professional growth. The institute's legacy, expertise, and dynamic environment perfectly aligned with my academic background and career aspirations.

Additionally, I looked forward to connecting with various experts and agricultural extension professionals for future career guidance and development.

Internship Experience



During the internship, I was responsible for assisting with speaker introductions, identifying speakers, and organizing the “*Evening 4 Learning*” webinars. I also coordinated the Odisha group’s visit to ICRISAT, Hyderabad, and the Fruit Research Station (FRS), Sangareddy, while managing additional coordination tasks. These responsibilities enhanced my leadership, communication, and time management skills, allowed me to interact with esteemed professionals from research institutes, and taught me the importance of teamwork and professional coordination.

I successfully completed data collection, review compilation, presentations, and submissions of reports and research articles, and I delivered my final presentation on time. Additionally, I actively participated in expert sessions throughout the program. One of the most challenging aspects was managing multiple tasks, such as research, coordination, and webinars, within a strict time schedule. I overcame this by improving my time management, dedicating extra hours, staying organized, and regularly seeking guidance from my mentor and team.

Learning Environment



The learning environment during the program was highly enriching, supportive, and interactive, with a team-oriented management approach based on concern for both people and tasks. It offered valuable insights through formal and informal expert sessions, field exposure via visits to renowned national and international agricultural research institutes, and hands-on activities like conducting webinars and participating in Q&A sessions during expert lectures, all of which encouraged active participation and skill development. My supervisor and colleagues were highly supportive, offering constant guidance and constructive feedback throughout the internship.

Our supervisor acted as a transformational mentor, reviewing our work daily, refining our approach, guiding us on the right path, motivating us, and providing vision and support. Colleagues also supported me in daily tasks and research activities; from them, I learned how to work with Scopus data and collect literature reviews. Their feedback appreciated my coordination efforts, research involvement, and proactive attitude toward learning.

Skills and Knowledge Gained

The internship aligned well with my academic and career goals by providing practical exposure and engaging me in research work, such as collecting reviews through Systematic Literature Review (SLR), data collection, and presentations. It helped shift my academic thinking from a narrow to a systems-based approach when tackling research problems and theories. It also allowed for meaningful interaction with professionals in the agricultural sector, significantly contributing to my personal and professional growth, boosting my confidence, and clarifying my career path. From expert interactions and networking opportunities at MANAGE, I gained valuable insights into current agricultural issues, the scope of agri-startups, research and policy perspectives, and built meaningful connections that will support my future academic and professional journey.





My most significant takeaways from the internship were the practical exposure, the development of a systems-thinking approach to research, and the confidence gained through expert interactions, teamwork, and real-world experiences. The systems-thinking approach to researching and planning a research problem is one of the most valuable insights I will apply to my thesis work. Additionally, the knowledge and skills I gained in academic research, leadership, coordination, and both task- and team-oriented approaches will greatly benefit me in future professional settings. I also plan to use these skills to guide and motivate colleagues and students in the right direction in my future career.





What I appreciated most about the internship program was the supportive learning environment, including both formal and informal interactions with our mentor, the freedom to work at our own pace, respect for our viewpoints, and a calm, distraction-free atmosphere. I also valued the exposure to real-world agricultural practices, expert interactions, and opportunities to enhance my communication, coordination, and research skills.

My MANAGE internship journey was a transformative and enriching experience, shaping me from being calm, hesitant, and delayed to becoming task-focused, team-oriented, and timely in delivering impactful work. It offered a perfect blend of practical exposure, expert guidance, and skill development. I gained valuable insights, built strong professional connections, and grew both personally and academically in a supportive and inspiring environment. The internship program met my expectations by providing relevant learning, exposure, expert interactions, valuable research opportunities, and a nurturing environment. It helped me enhance my academic and professional skills while closely aligning with my career goals.

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