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**Vulnerability Assessment and Enhancing Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in Semi Arid Areas in India**

MANAGE is one of the three partners in a project on "Vulnerability Assessment and Enhancing the Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in Semi Arid Areas in India". The project was initiated by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in India and is based on holistic as well as stakeholder-driven and pro-poor approach. Implementation of the project is by a National Consortium consisting of three partners M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Action for Food Production (AFPRO) and MANAGE.

The overall goal of the programme is to secure the livelihoods of rural poor and vulnerable communities by promoting adaptation measures that build and enhance their capacity to better cope with adverse impacts of climate change. The focus is on optimizing and integrating climate change related knowledge in existing service delivery systems in the water, agriculture and rural energy sector in one district each in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan on pilot basis. Mahabubnagar in Andhra Pradesh and Udaipur in Rajasthan have been selected for project interventions.

The objectives are:

- To build community level capacities with regard to best practices and technologies in the agriculture, water and energy sector,
- To optimize the service delivery system and services at selected sites, and
- To promote policy dialogue and advocacy at different levels

Based on the situational analysis, suitable technologies and institutional mechanisms for optimizing extension systems are to be developed to be tried out in action research mode. This apart, training needs of the personnel of the pilot areas will be identified and training programmes organized.