

Feed The Future India Triangular Training (FTF ITT) Program

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1. **Valedictory Ceremony: International Training Program on "Computer Applications in Agriculture" under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) scheduled during 18th February-6th March, 2019 at MANAGE, Hyderabad.**

MANAGE hosted its first ITEC program in its campus on "Computer Applications in Agriculture" during 18th February - 6th March, 2019. The program was concluded on 5th of March, 2019 in the presence of Chief Guest Dr. E. Vishnu Vardhan Reddy, IFS, Regional Passport Officer, Hyderabad,



Group photograph of ITEC Program during the Valedictory function

Mrs. V. Usha Rani, IAS, Director General, MANAGE, Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Deputy Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE and MANAGE faculty.

Smt. V. Usha Rani, IAS, Director General, MANAGE welcomed Chief Guest Dr. E. Vishnu Vardhan



Smt. V. Usha Rani, IAS
Director General, MANAGE

Reddy, IFS, Regional Passport Officer, Hyderabad. She urged the participants to take back at work plan seriously and initiate a small change in their respective countries. She also suggested the participants to share their experiences and learnings from this program with their colleagues, friends and family when they go back to their home countries.

Dr. E. Vishnu Vardhan Reddy, IFS, Regional Passport Officer, Hyderabad in his address briefed about the ITEC programs. He highlighted that ITEC is the flagship development partnership program of Govt. of India firmly rooted in the south-south cooperation and the main idea is to impart training and capacity building. He mentioned that he attended many ITEC valedictory functions from past few years and it is the first time



Dr. E. Vishnu Vardhan Reddy, IFS
Regional Passport Officer, Hyderabad

that, he heard about Back at work plan (BAWP). He congratulated MANAGE for introducing BAWP in the ITEC program and successfully completing the ITEC program. He said that BAWP is the true essence of the ITEC program which is not only about the knowledge sharing but also how we actually make a difference in the field level. He also briefed the audience about the ICT application in agriculture viz. Plantix, eSagu which are very small but they have tremendous potential in bringing positive change in the life of farmers. Certificates were given to all Executives for successfully completing the training programme.

Feedback and Results: The participants appreciated all the technical sessions taken by resources persons and field visits organized during the training programme and the training program was rated as 9.05. Pre & Post training test was conducted for the participants at the beginning and at the end of the training respectively. Twenty five thematic questions on "Computer application in Agriculture" were given for pre and post-training test to assess change in the knowledge levels of the executives and effectiveness of the training programme. Pre and post results analysis showed the 27% increase in the knowledge level of the executives.



2. A brief report on the 34th FTF ITT Program on "ICT Applications in Agricultural Extension Management (Farmers Call Centre)" scheduled during 11-25th March, 2019 at National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, Telangana, India

I. Inaugural Program

34th FTFITT international training program on "ICT Applications in Agricultural Extension Management (Farmers Call Centre) " was inaugurated on 11th of March 2019 at National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, Telangana, India. A total of 34 participants (4 female and 30 male executives), from eight Asian and African countries namely, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Myanmar, Malawi, Nepal, Kenya, Tanzania, and Sri Lanka joined to participate in the program.



**FTF ITT Training Program on "ICT Applications in Agricultural Extension Management (Farmers Call Centre)"
Inaugurated by Smt. V. Usha Rani, IAS, Director General, MANAGE**

The program was inaugurated by Smt. V. Usha Rani, IAS, Director General, MANAGE and Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE, Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Dy. Director, MANAGE were present during the event.

Smt. V. Usha Rani, in her welcome speech highlighted on the importance of ICT in Agricultural Extension System. She discussed in brief about the extension system of India and how it operates



**Smt. V. Usha Rani, IAS,
Director General, MANAGE, Hyderabad**

from village to national level. She also described how the mode of information dissemination has changed with time. Today ICTs in Extension is being used as a personalized extension service by the farmers. Services like Kisan Call Centers provides two-way communications between the farmer and experts. She also spoke about the importance of FTF-ITT training programme by stating that Indian Agricultural technologies are suitable for serving the needs of farmers from underdeveloped and developing countries. She emphasized that the purpose of this training is to feed the ever

increasing population of the world. Since, agriculture is facing many challenges viz. climate is changing, the cultivable land is decreasing day by day, the population is increasing, resources are degrading to feed the future, knowledge has to be updated to make farmer's life better. Here, ICT can play an important role in providing timely information to the farmers and will also reduce their farming risk.

II. Brief Summary of the Program

A total of 34 participants (4 female and 30 male executives), from eight Asian and African countries namely, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Myanmar, Malawi, Nepal, Kenya, Tanzania, and Sri Lanka participated in the program.

Training Objectives

1. To introduce the Concept of Information and communication technologies (ICT's) and its role in Agriculture and rural development
2. To study the advanced ICT' tools in Agriculture and allied sectors
3. To know the impact of ICT's for farmer's welfare
4. To analyze the case studies on ICT's and their implication in developing countries
5. To introduce and understand the concept of FCC (Farmer call center) Module

Training program on ICT Applications in Agricultural Extension Management designed to make executives to acquaint with professional knowledge of ICT's and Concepts and process, module, operational mechanism, schematic representation, monitoring and review and reporting and documentation of Farmers Call Center (FCC operational module of Farmers Call center (FCC). And also to provide Hands-on training in recent advanced ICT's tools in agriculture and allied sectors.

The sessions delivered through lectures, group discussions, case studies and practical sessions. The executives given hands-on experience by exposing to IT labs, State Agriculture Universities (SAU's) and Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) involved in FCC. The program design was highly participatory.

During the training program, executives visited Kisan (farmers) Call Center (KCC), Hyderabad, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Agricultural produce market committee (APMC), Rural Technology Park of National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (RTP-NIRD&PR), Hyderabad and KCC-Hub, IKSL, New Delhi and KKMS Portal Centre at DAC&FW, New Delhi.

III. Valedictory Program

The program culminated on 23rd of March, 2019 at MANAGE in the presence of chief guest Smt. G. Jayalakshmi, IAS, Director General, NIPHM, Smt. V. Usha Rani, IAS, Director General, MANAGE, Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agri. Extn.) Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Dy. Director, MANAGE and MANAGE faculty.

The Director General, MANAGE, Smt. Usha Rani, IAS welcomed the Chief Guest Smt. G. Jayalakshmi, IAS, Director General, NIPHM. She advised the trainees that the knowledge learned from this programme should be implemented in their respective countries as back at work plan and the success stories can be shared with MANAGE.

The Chief Guest Smt. G. Jayalakshmi in her presidential address pointed out that the major challenge of agriculture is to reach the small and marginal farmers. She also stressed to focus on agri-business. She highlighted the need to carry out research to know the change in decision-making behavior after the ICT application. She congratulated the Director General and all the staff of MANAGE for successfully conducting the FTF-ITT programs at MANAGE.



Smt. G. Jayalakshmi, IAS
Director General, NIPHM, Hyderabad



Group Photo of 34th FTF ITT Program during the Valedictory Function

3. Success Story-Back at Work Plan of FTF ITT participant (Compiled by Chinnu Joseph Kattoor, Kudumbashree Mission)



Ms. Yagala Julian
Uganda

Ms. Yagala Julian is a coordinator in Women Development Office, Kaguma village, Buheesi, Kabarole, Uganda. She was trained under 13th FTF ITT program on “Entrepreneurship Development among Rural Women” at Kudumbashree training at Kampala, Uganda during 13-22nd November, 2017.

After the training program, as a Back at work project, she took two assignments. One is “Empowering young girls in skills to supplement on the household income” and another is “Empowering women in kitchen gardening and general household hygiene”. A brief description of her achievements in the back at work plan are given below:

I. Empowering young girls in skills to supplement on the household income

People in rural areas of Uganda depend on farming as the main source of income. In addition to agricultural engagements, rural women are also responsible for the managing of their families. Julian recognized the power of women groups and self-employment after she attended the Feed The Future India Triangular Training (FTF ITT) International Training Programme on “Entrepreneurship Development among Rural Women” held during 13th - 22nd November 2017 at St. Augustine Institute, Nsambya, Kampala, Uganda. She



Financial Independence: Bank accounts for all the Members of the group

focused her efforts to implement the Kudumbashree model in Fort Portal. She was particularly motivated to implement the women empowerment program since she recognized that the women cannot support their children at school and in most cases, girls drop out of school to help out in domestic work or to get married. Ms. Julian selected 10 girls aged between 16 to 19 years hailing from the poor and vulnerable background, but who were motivated to change their future, who attend different schools within Fort Portal Town. They, like many of their peer group, have the same basic needs – financing their education and expenses related to schooling.

Julian visited them and took permission for enrolling the girls in the group (performing non Hazardous work) from the girls’ guardians. She also briefed the parents on Kudumbasree model and the changes that she expected to bring about in their society. After having formed the group, the girls decided on making and selling quick snacks to their fellow school mates.

A trainer was arranged free of cost to train the girls in snack making. Since the girls were unable to raise money themselves, Julian approached well-wishers and raised 70000 Ugandan Shillings as seed capital. Space and cooking materials for manufacturing the snacks were provided by Julian. The main product is “Mandazi” which has had the highest demand from the consumers as well. Each of the members was given a sales target and they were mostly able to achieve it consistently.

The proceeds from the sale were pooled religiously and were deposited to a bank account formed on behalf of the group. The formal banking system ensured that the girls were able to track their transaction and be updated on the savings. The girls have expanded the category to cakes, meat pies and other snacks besides Mandazi.

II. Empowering women in kitchen gardening and general household hygiene

The average Ugandan woman spends 9 hours a day on domestic tasks such as preparing food, clothing, fetching water and firewood, caring for the elderly and the sick. To supplement their income rural women may engage in small-scale entrepreneurial activities. However, due to their day to day engagements they can spare little or no time for these income-generating activities. Therefore, Julian concentrated on empowering the homemakers to lead their respective domestic life in a healthy manner. She appraised the homemakers of Kaguma village and succeeded in forming a group named Bakyara tweyimukye Kudumbashree group, comprising of 18 women. Household hygiene was adopted as the main agenda because it emerged as the single most aspect of daily life that required immediate attention.

Julian replicated the farming model of Kudumbashree in this group and sensitized about household hygiene. After forming the group, the women started their income generation through kitchen gardening and it also serves as a source of nutrient-rich vegetables for their consumption. The group members meet, save and also help neighbours to meet and maintain the hygiene. In every meeting, the members make minutes, discuss their financial positions, lends money to needy members to support in construction, gardening, and maintenance of hygiene at the members’ premises.

Women have been trained on construction of drying racks for storing their household utensils, making tip taps for washing hands after using was rooms, construction of energy saving stoves that reduce smoke and to save firewood. Depending on their need, they were offered training in household hygiene, kitchen gardening and village level savings mobilization.



Tip Taps for Hand Washing

Outcome: The women can now save their money at bi- weekly meetings and individuals in need can acquire small loans from this savings to pay the school fees for their children and to boost



Group meetings of the members



Sensitization on household hygiene

their small businesses (market vending, road side stalls, small village kiosks etc.,). They have started to enjoy a nutritional diet with inputs from their own backyard and thus have paved way for a healthier life.

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4. Sneak peek into the upcoming issue of our bulletin

- Announcement of upcoming programs
- Visit of Afghanistan and Nepal executives to the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, New Delhi for preliminary study of KKMS and KCC
- Many other stories from Back At Work Plan

FTF ITT Training Program Overview

Total Number of Training Programs Completed: **34**

Number of executives trained till now: **887**

Male: Female: **542:345**

Number of Countries covered: **20**

Name of the countries:

Asia: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka

Africa: Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda

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