

## Feed The Future India Triangular Training (FTF ITT) Program

### In this Issue:

1. Seeking applications for International Training Programs under Feed The Future India Triangular Training (FTF ITT)
2. USAID evaluation team visit to MANAGE, Partner institutes and Partner countries
3. Back at Work Plan stories from the FTF ITT Alumni
  - I. IPM against FAW- Success Story of an Agriculture Extension Officer from Malawi
  - II. Growing a successful dairy business means everyone must grow collectively and sustainably: Mr. Caku Benjamin
4. Sneak peek into the upcoming issue of our bulletin

### 1. Seeking applications for International Training Programs under Feed The Future India Triangular Training (FTF ITT)

Training Program	Dates	Institute
1. "Agri-Business and Management"	18 <sup>th</sup> June -2 <sup>nd</sup> July, 2019	National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, India.
2. "Agribusiness – Startup to Scale up"	10 - 24 <sup>th</sup> July, 2019	National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, India.



### Participating 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

**For more details visit this link:** <https://www.manage.gov.in/ftf-itt/upcoming/FTFITT-upcoming-2019.pdf>

## 2. USAID evaluation team visit to MANAGE, Partner Institutes and Partner Countries

Ms. Pamela Morris, Mr. J Robert Simmons and Dr. Viju Ipe visited MANAGE on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2019. The objective of the evaluation was to measure, document and determine the impact of the Feed the Future India Triangular Training (FTF-ITT) program in addressing the human and institutional capacity gaps in food and nutritional security. Smt. V. Usha Rani, IAS, Director General, MANAGE offered a floral welcome to the team. She also presented FTF-ITT programs progress and achievements. The presentation session was followed by the round table discussion of FTF ITT Evaluation team and faculty at MANAGE under the chairmanship of DG, MANAGE.

The team also visited other FTF ITT partner institutes located in Hyderabad; National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR) and ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA).

The team visited partner institute Kudumbashree Mission, Trivandrum, Kerala on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.



After their visit to Hyderabad and Trivandrum, the team proceeded to three FTF ITT partner countries; Cambodia, Kenya and Uganda. On 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 Mr. J Robert Simmons and Dr. Viju Ipe visited Cambodia. During their visit, they met Mr. Tith Sara, FTF ITT Point of contact for Cambodia and beneficiary trainees in Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. They interviewed the trainees and collected feedback about the training programs organized by USAID (India)-MANAGE. On 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 the team visited Kenya and met beneficiary trainees in Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and irrigation, Cathedral Road, Nairobi. They interviewed the trainees and collected feedback about the training program

organized by USAID (India)-MANAGE. The evaluation team visited Uganda on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2019 to collect the feedback from trainees trained under FTF ITT by MANAGE. Mr. Muteekanga George W.T, FTF ITT, PoC, Uganda facilitated the meeting between evaluation team and beneficiaries.



EVALUATION TEAM VISIT TO KENYA



EVALUATION TEAM VISIT TO UGANDA



### 3. Back at Work Plan stories from the FTF ITT alumni:

#### I. IPM against FAW- Success Story of an Agriculture Extension Officer from Malawi



Meet Mr. Ngamba Moses Fwilachalo, an Agriculture Extension Development Officer from Malawi who is helping the farmers of Chitipa District of Malawi to fight against the infestation of Fall Army Worm (FAW). This pest has become a major problem for the Malawian farmers and has been swallowing their entire crop of maize, sorghum, millets and other staple crops. It is a voracious and fast spreading pest due to which farmers in Malawi are facing huge financial losses.

In November, 2018, after attending the FTF ITT International Training Program on 'Plant Biosecurity and Food Safety' at the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM) at Hyderabad in India, Mr. Moses decided to spread awareness regarding combating FAW efficiently.

During the training, he learnt various Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques to tackle the FAW. These techniques included practices like; deep summer ploughing, erection of pheromone traps, regular scouting and destruction of egg masses, intercropping with pulses, border cropping with Napier grass, using bio-pesticides like neem oil, *Trichogramma*, *Beauveria bassiana*, poison baiting technique with recommended pesticides, etc.

After returning back to his country, he shared his experiences of Indian innovations to tackle FAW with his colleagues. They all organized many awareness programs for the farmers on the themes of integrated pest management, ecological engineering, deleterious effects of poisonous insecticides, pesticide residues, biological control of pests and diseases etc.



Initially, Mr. Moses faced his share of challenges. He found it difficult to convince the farmers as they were in distress and lost hope. FAW infestation is a big issue for Maize growers in Malawi as they solely depends on this crop for their livelihood. Due to serious outbreak of the fall army worm in Chitipa District of Malawi in the Maize fields, it resulted in poor yields and caused threat to food security of people.

Over the time, farmers showed trust since Mr. Moses also organized awareness meetings with the local farmers and demonstrated positive effect of IPM practices in controlling FAW in their own fields. In the farmers' field he demonstrated the effects of IPM module which contained practices such as summer ploughing, pheromone traps erection and monitoring, inter cropping with Tephrosia, Bio pesticide application with Neem oil and finally with need based insecticide sprays. The effect of this module was compared with fields with chemical control (Cypermethrin and Indoxacarb) and untreated control. He also promoted the practice of intercropping among the farmers.



*Awareness meetings on IPM of Fall Army Worm in Maize in Tutwe model village, Chitipa District of Malawi*

Owing to his efforts, now farmers in Tutwe model village, Chitipa District of Malawi are able to significantly reduce the infestation of FAW in their fields due to adoption of various IPM

practices. They have installed pheromone traps in their fields (see pictures below) and are using various bio pesticides against FAW. They are also now intercropping maize with Tephrosia crop. Farmers in this region are now much more aware and are timely scouting, monitoring and are able to identify the early symptoms of FAW in their fields. The cost effective nature of these IPM practices is also another reason for their popularity among the farming communities here.



***Pheromone trap installation***



***Untreated Maize with 50 – 70 % damage v/s IPM Maize plot with <<10% damage***

**Mr. Ngamba Moses Fwilachalo**

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## **II. Growing a successful dairy business means everyone must grow collectively and sustainably: Mr. Caku Benjamin**

Collectivism is the new strategy for addressing farming related problems. If not, Mr. Caku Benjamin says the farming business will not keep pace with its potential to grow. “I think cooperation and cooperatives can be a panacea for the pain of Ugandan farmers” explains Mr. Caku Benjamin, Animal Husbandry Officer from Arua, Uganda.

Mr. Benjamin gives credit of this learning to the FTF ITT International Training Program he attended in India on “Management of Dairy Cooperatives” organized by MANAGE at ICAR-



National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Karnal. The program was held during 10<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> April, 2018. During the program he visited many successful dairy cooperatives in India and realized that such initiatives can also boost the livelihood of Ugandan farmers as well. Like India, Uganda is also primarily an Agro-based economy where the livestock sub-sector contributes about 20% of agricultural GDP. The country has congenial temperature, rainfall and other geographical situations which are ideal for dairy farming to flourish.

However, the dairy farmers in Uganda frequently faced following problems:

- Shortage of forage and drinking-water during the dry season
- Limited availability of seeds and other planting materials for improved production of grasses and legumes
- Increased incidence of disease because of decline in control measures and the rapidly rising cost of drugs and chemicals
- Poor genetic potential of indigenous breeds
- Irregular and unreliable access to markets for many producers
- Inadequate levels of institutional credit for small-scale dairy farm enterprises.

Since, each of these problems are mostly related to the access of inputs to the farmers, the cooperatives can provide effective solution. Inputs can be mobilized on collective basis in cheaper process and farmers can have better bargaining power in the market. Hence, Mr. Benjamin started working towards establishment of a functional Dairy Cooperative in Arua district of Uganda. In this process he took the help of 18 extension functionaries and managed to sensitize around 400 dairy farmers and organized them into a cooperative society. Following activities related to feeding, breeding, health & housing of the dairy animals are operational in this cooperative society:

- Artificial Insemination- So far about 60 dairy cows have been inseminated artificially.
- Design & Construction of farm structures-small structures like cattle crèche are established
- Capacity building trainings for farmers- on topics such as; selection of good quality dairy animals, pasture conservation techniques, silage making etc.
- Awareness events-e.g. meetings, farm visits, radio shows on various dairy related themes



***Artificial Insemination to improve the Short-Horn East African Zebu***



***Shelter established for dairy goats at Vurra sub-county***



***Community Sensitization meeting involving the key stakeholders in Dairy Industry***



***Farm visit at Oluko sub-county with an Extension Officer***



***Dairy Farmers in Arua District receiving their selected Dairy Heifers***



***Demonstration of silage making at Adumi sub-county***



This cooperative society has been continually improving the way the farmers perform dairy farming here. Incorporation of new techniques and technology (e.g. controlled breeding) has not only positively impacted their economy but also the health of the dairy animals. The region has shown improved welfare of animals in terms of feeding, housing, health. Average yield of milk per farmer has almost doubled from 5-6 liters to 9-10 liters. Due to this initiative Ugandan companies have begun engaging directly with farmers in a bid to provide better prices for their dairy products. Besides the quality, the wellbeing of the animals has shown good results on the quality of the dairy products also.

The efforts of Mr. Benjamin have boosted the profile of farmers' dairy business. That's not to say that he isn't still looking to only increase dairy yields and focusing on economic welfare of the farmers. "I know like any enterprise, the best way to produce product is by being sustainable," he says. "With my learnings from the FTF ITT program in India I have realized that sustainability is of prime importance. Hence I will continue to spread the awareness among the dairy farmers to move forward collectively to attain sustainability in the dairy farming".

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#### 4. Sneak peek into the upcoming issue of our bulletin

1. Brief report on 35<sup>th</sup> FTF ITT program on "Agri-Business and Management"
2. Many other stories from Back at Work Plan
3. Brief report on visit of Director General, MANAGE to Kenya

### 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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