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**Feed the Future India Triangular Program on
Agripreneurship among farm women for extension practitioners
from African and Asian countries**

01st -15th March, 2017, KILA, Kerala, India



Kudumbashree
State Poverty Eradication Mission
Trivandrum Kerala, India
www.kudumbashree.org



**Feed The Future India Triangular Training Program on
“Agriprunership among farm women” for Extension Practitioners from African and Asian Countries**

01st -15th March, 2017, Kudumbashree, Kerala, India

REPORT

Dr Rahul. Krishnan, Training Coordinator

For

Kudumbashree, State Poverty Eradication mission

Local Self Government dept of Kerala

Trivandrum, Kerala, India





From the desk of the Executive Director, Kudumbashree

Greetings from Kudumbashree, Kerala state poverty eradication mission, India.

Training program on “Agripreneurship among farm women” organized by Kudumbashree under the Feed The Future, India Triangular Program has been a completed successfully and has proved to be an intricate platform for Knowledge sharing among the participating countries

Impression and feedback from the practitioners has been overwhelmingly positive as they have been able to understand and imbibe the ethos of women collectivization for income generation in farm activity. The field visit and interactive session with the community has provided them to understand the grass root realities and get a comprehensive picture how the Kudumbashree system works

The economic and social empowerment of the women layered on the numerous intervention of Kudumbashree has provided the participants with new ideas and attitude reflected in their back to work plans focusing on collectivizing women to achieve the numerous developmental goals

The report consists of all stages of training program implementation which will be shared with all the stakeholders for Better Extension Demonstration Impact. I hope this document will be useful for all the stakeholders. I request the readers to provide valuable feedback for further improvement.

Best wishes

Harikishore I.A.S

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

A new Agriculture Partnership between US and India to achieve Ever Green Revolution to address Global Food Security was announced during the State visit of US President Mr. Barak Obama to India in November 2010. The effort included Triangular Cooperation adapting technological advances and innovative solutions to address Food Security Challenges in Africa. This pilot stage focused on three African Countries i.e., Kenya, Liberia and Malawi with potential to expand throughout the African Continent in future. Consequently, National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad and National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), Jaipur conducted 7 training programs covering 219 executives from Kenya, Liberia & Malawi. Participants Surveys were conducted in Kenya, Liberia & Malawi to assess the impact of training programs. Results were beyond expectations. Due to the success of first seven training programs, there have been considerable enthusiasm from the prospective Executives from Africa and Asia to participate in the training program.

As a result, USAID and Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Govt. of India identified 17 additional countries and designated as Feed the Future; India Triangular Training Program which was launched on 25th July, 2016 at New Delhi. During the program period until 2020, around 1400 Agricultural professionals will be trained in Africa and Asia in phased manner. The program will conduct 32, fifteen days training courses (excluding travel period) at select Indian institutions for 25 participants in each programme. And twelve, 10 days duration trainings (excluding travel period), in selected partner countries in Africa and Asia, for up to 50 participants per programme. Each course module will focus on themes or sub sectors in which Indian institutions of reputed or have demonstrated comparative advantage to offer such trainings and ensure that it effectively responds to the target countries' capacity gaps. This approach is designed to respond to the needs of target countries based on the Demand Analysis carried out at the beginning of this program.

Based on the demand analyzed, it was identified that agripreneurship development among farm women would be an important domain of learning, since women play a pivotal role in ensuring food security and economic security of the family . Accordingly Kudumbasree, was selected as training agency based on the extraordinary works undertaken by the agency in women empowerment and income generation activities among women.

Kudumabshree: *One of the innovative poverty eradication programme of government of Kerala, working through collectives of women. Presently there are more than 4.5 million women members associated with programme. More than 400 Million rupees (6 Million \$) has been mobilised through community funds and Rs 1200 Million (18 Million \$) has leveraged as bank credit by the collectives. 31000 micro enterprises and more than 1.2 lakh acres of lease land for agriculture are managed by the members of the network*

The training programme on Agriprunership among farm women was announced in the month of January 2017, and was scheduled during 01-15 March 2017 at Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), Kerala. The announcement was received huge response from partner countries and MANAGE received 46 nomination from eight countries viz., Afghanistan, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mongolia, Mozambique and Uganda. Program Management Unit (PMU), MANAGE has shortlisted 25 executives from 8 countries to participate in the Training Program at Kerala. (List of executives enclosed in Annexure II).



Inauguration function of “Agriprunership among farm women” on 01 March, 2017 at KILA, Kerala, India



Executives with dignitaries Her Excellency Elizabeth Paula Napeyok, High Commissioner of Uganda to India, Mr. Mustapha El Hamzaoui, Director, USAID, India, Smt. V. Usha Rani, IAS, Director General MANAGE, Dr. Srivalli Krishnan, Development Assistance Specialist, USAID, India, Smt. N.K.Jaya, Director, Kudumbashree & Dr. Ravi Nandi, Program Manager, PMU, MANAGE on 1st March, 2017



"Kudumbashree model exemplifies the requirement of focussing on women for development"

H. E Elizabeth Paula Napeyok, High Commissioner of Uganda to India



"Kudumbashree with its membership of more than 4 million members and diverse activities undertaken for women empowerment is a perfect model for gaining experiential knowledge"

Mr Mustapha El Hamzaoui, Director, Food Security Office, USAID, India

1.2 Objectives of the training programme

The proposed training program primarily focuses on understanding the kudumbashree model of economic empowerment of the women. Detailed understanding of the community institution and sufficient and necessary conditions for creating an ecosystem for supporting entrepreneurship among women will be focused.

- Introduce the concept of the Agriprunership among the farm women
- Identify the key concepts of successful entrepreneurship in the farm sector by women
- Identify the ecosystem approach for agripreneurship
- Cross learning from successful models implemented by Kudumbashree in these sectors
- Develop a work plan for the operationalizing Agriprunership among farm women

1.3 Key Focus Areas of Training Module

- Concept, need, potential, Opportunity and challenges in Agriprunership
- Scale and scope of Agriprunership among farm women
- Best practices and its adoption barriers
- Value, Challenges and risk involved
- Support environment required for Agriprunership
- Plan for tracking progress

1.4 Selection of Executives

Due to the success of Pilot programs in Kenya, Malawi and Liberia during 2013-15, there has been considerable enthusiasm from the prospective Executives from partner countries to participate in the training program. In order to select right candidates, good publicity was given in partner countries through Point of Contact (POC) in respective countries, through Indian Embassies, USAID Missions of respective countries, National Governments and previously trained Executives. The nominations were sponsored by the agriculture and allied departments of the respective countries by the due date i.e., 12th February, 2017 were scrutinized by Program Management Unit (PMU), MANAGE to select suitable Executives. The following parameters received due weightage at the time of nomination/selection of Executives:

- ❖ At least 3 years of uninterrupted service in Public or Private sector in the training theme area. Exceptional nominations require separate justification.

- ❖ Executives may be nominated representing diverse working areas viz., Planning, Administration, Teaching, Research, Extension, Agri Industry, NGO, Farmers organizations/cooperatives, Agripreneurs in Agriculture and allied fields namely Horticulture, Sericulture, Forestry, Livestock, Fisheries, Natural Resources Management, Nutrition, Agribusiness, Post-Harvest and Value Addition, Marketing etc.
- ❖ Currently involved in Feed the Future [FTF] Programs. Exceptions must be demonstrated by evidence that the participant will actively be involved in the above Program.
- ❖ At-least 50 per cent of the nominations were reserved for female professionals in selected and waitlisted category.
- ❖ Applicant shall possess physical and mental skills and abilities for successfully completing the program.
- ❖ Working knowledge of English.

1.5 Profiles of the Executives

Twenty five executives from eight countries (1 participant from Mozambique, 2 each from Afghanistan and Liberia, 3 from Uganda, 4 each from Ghana, Kenya and Mongolian and 5 from Malawi) have attended and successfully completed the program. The selected executives belonged to diverse working areas viz., Civil servants, Agriculture and Rural Development Officers, Agricultural planning and policy officers, Agricultural Extension officers namely Livestock, Fisheries, and Agribusiness etc. representing public, universities and private organizations in partner countries. Out of 25 executives, reflecting the theme²¹ of the participants were women. Complete list of Executives is enclosed at Annexure-II.

2. Methodology

2.1 Training methodology

The training program was participatory in nature, which was included lectures, panel discussions, group discussions, case studies and field visits. Each participant was expected to contribute ideas and take part in group activities thereon forming small groups to undertake various tasks allotted under the training. Although, experiential learning methodology was effectively incorporated in the program, however the participants were expected to emulate learnings through group interaction, field visits and interactions with domain experts. A Back at Work Plan was in-built to ensure the transformation of learning into action at their workplace. The effectiveness of the training is proposed to be monitored after conducting Pre & Post Tests to understand the impact of

the training on the knowledge of the participants. A learner-centred approach was followed to orient the participants on Public Private Partnership in Agricultural Extension Management. Methodology adopted for the program was as follows:

- ❖ Participatory approach
- ❖ Participants expected to contribute ideas and work in groups
- ❖ Experiential learning methodology (Cross learning, field experiences)
- ❖ Interactive session with the beneficiaries and leaders of the community
- ❖ Lectures, group discussions, panel discussions and field visits to premier agricultural research and extension institutions and agricultural universities in and around Thrissur
- ❖ Success stories and case study discussion
- ❖ Special lectures/interactions with eminent personalities from the field were invited
- ❖ Participants were made to present “Back-at-Work-Plans”
- ❖ Daily yoga sessions were organized
- ❖ Regular feedback on the program were collected.

2.2 Study Material

Study material, prepared by the senior officers of Kudumbashree on all the major themes, were provided to the executives. The soft copies of all the presentations made during the sessions were provided to the executives at the end of the course. Plethora of photographs of field visits and other important activities of program were also provided to the Executives. The executives had full access to KILA Library which is having thousands of books, periodicals and online journals.

In order to increase access to information and share knowledge on continuous basis, WIFI facility and laptops for required participants were made available. The study material has been attached as annexure IV

2.3 Resource Persons

As the focus was on understanding the best practices of Kudumbashree, experienced officers and community level mentors were used as resource persons

- ❖ Kudumbashree Officers: Kudumbashree staff whom has played pivotal roles in establishing the institutions and collectivizing the community were used as resource persons
- ❖ Community leaders: Community leaders and mentors were used for experience sharing
- ❖ CEO and BOD of Producer Companies: Top officials of Producer company were invited for interactive sessions
- ❖ State Level Institute : Kerala Agriculture University

2.4 Field visit

The executives were exposed to various fields i.e. Thennela Agro Producer Company, Nutrimix unit, Micro enterprise unit of Ernakulum, Community structures of Nadathara Panchayat, Kerala Agriculture University through which the executives were able to relate the theory sessions with filed realties. Also they could participate in the women day celebration on 08th March, 2017 at Mallappuram district.



Executive's interactive session on community structures at Nadathara village



Visit to the Nutrimix unit



Visit to Kerala Agriculture University

2.5 Visit to places of Historical and Cultural importance

Executives were taken to places of various historical and cultural importance such as Fort Kochi, Matancherry church, Jew synagogue, LULU Mall, Alapuzzha backwaters. The Jewish Synagogue is oldest Jew synagogue in the country reflecting the cultural and traditional linkages of Kerala with other country. LULU mall is one of the biggest mall in South Asia. Alapuzzha Backwater has been designated as one among the 50 must see places by National Geography.



Matancherry Synagogue



Alappuzha Backwaters



Sessions in Houseboat



Houseboat Cruise

2.6 Cultural Evening

Kudumbashree has conducted a cultural programme on 14.03.2017 at JOYS Place, the programme provided the executives a glimpse of traditional art forms of Kerala. Thiruvathira and Bharathanatyam were presented before delegates. All the participating delegates were also actively involved in the cultural evening as they performed traditional art forms of their respective countries.



2.7 Collective action and participatory learning

All the executives were divided in to six Sub-groups to enhance learning in small groups throughout the training program including field/ Institutional visits. The groups were given responsibility for learning from interactions, collection of literature, photographs, contact details and identify useful technology to their respective countries. Six groups formed were Rice, Sun, Success, Honey Bee, Peace and Kelinda.

2.8 Life Membership to Professional Bodies and Journals

All the executives were made Life members of MANAGE Journal of “Agricultural Extension Management”, which is bi-annual covering latest developments in the extension sectors published by MANAGE. As life members, they will receive Journal time to time.

2.9 Back-At-Work-Plans

The present programme aimed at sensitizing the executives on Agriprunership among farm women and the it has been implemented. Hence, the expected outcome is a professional commitment by each Executive to try new initiatives learnt during the training programmes at their work place after the training programme. It is the direct impact of the training programme seen in the field of the trainee. In the backdrop of orientation, inputs, interactions, study material and experiences received during the program, the executives prepared and presented individual “Back-at-work-plans” which would help operationalize the relevant concepts learned during the program in their respective countries. Back at work -plan also trace the connectivity between Indian experience and back home extension issues. Details of individual Back-at-work-plans are given at Annexure-III

3. Training Evaluation

3.1 Evaluation of Technical Sessions

Feedback of Executives was collected on all technical sessions taken by resources persons, and field visits on a scale of 0 to10 i.e. ‘1 being the least and 10 being highest. In addition, their suggestions on other areas such as boarding and lodging were obtained in order to bring necessary changes. The executives expressed their satisfaction level by rating the program on an average score of 8.64 on a 10 point continuum indicating the overall impression on the programme was excellent. The feedback received from executives are tabulated and given at Annexure-V

3.2 Pre and Post-Training Test

Pre & Post Training Test were conducted for the Executives at the beginning and at the end of the training respectively. Twenty five thematic questions on Public Private Partnership in Agricultural Extension Management with a maximum of 25 marks were administered for pre and post-training test and obtained answers of the executives to assess their change of knowledge levels and effectiveness of the training programme. The average score of executives in the pre-training test was 15 whereas the average score of post-training was 19.

Thus, it is found that the level of knowledge of executives was increase by 25 percent after the training programme. Details of pre and post-training test are given at Annexure-VI.



Post Training Test

3.3 Evaluation

Executives rated the overall training program with a score of 8.64 on 10 point continuum i.e. Excellent.

3.4 Post-Training Monitoring

Post-training impact evaluation in respective countries by Kudumbashree and reported to Program Management Unit (PMU) is an integral part of the programme. Kudumbashree will be regularly in touch with executives through emails to monitor the progress of their “Back-at-Work-Plans” and it will help the effective monitoring and impact evaluation which is one of the important aspects of Program Monitoring & Evaluation (M & E).

4. Valedictory & Feed Back

4.1. Valedictory

The valedictory function was held on 15th of March, 2017. Dr. Salim, Chief Executive Officer of Kudumbashree, Deputy Director of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Kerala, Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director (PMU), MANAGE were the Chief Guest of the valedictory program. Faculty members and all Executives participated in the valedictory function. Certificates for having completed the training program successfully were given to all Executives along with individualized spice books. Special appreciation certificates were given to volunteers in 2 categories viz., Documentation, Coordination and Time Management.



Executives with the dignitaries, Dr. Salim, Chief Operating Officer, Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director, PMU, MANAGE



Executives receiving the Certificates from Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director, PMU, MANAGE

4.2 Media coverage

There was wide coverage given by Print and Electronic Media some of the clipping of media coverage are enclosed in Annexure VII.

4.3 Feed Back from Dignitaries and executives



"This platform really helps the countires to learn the best and try it in thier place. Our experinces shows that small experiments in thier own area has shown big results"

Dr Chandrashekhara, Director PMU



"The actual suces of the training programme depends how you are able to implement these learnings back to your work "

Dr Salim.S, Chief Execuitve Officer,
Kudumbashree



"The value generation through value addition .especially of cashew was really wonderful"

Theresa
Charlotte, Ghana



"This training opened up to the idea of actual women empowerment and what women can achieve through collectivisation"

Ms. Sajea Amarkhail,
Afghanistan



The community structures and discipline maintained in the groups reflects the need of bringing a system approach in community activity

Ms. Kona .S. Kollie, Liberia



Identifying emerging issues and addressing them effectively has been hallmark of Kudumbashree success. The monitoring structure of the skill training is worth replicating

Mr. George, Uganda



"This training was well coordinated and provided an opportunity to learn the best practices in women empowerment"

***Ms. Nancy Raguru
Kenya***



" This training has shown how small activities at community level can make such a impact at the society level"
Ms Nandintsetseg, Mongolia

Annexure -1 Programme schedule



Feed The Future India Triangular Training (FTF ITT) International Training Program on “Agripreneurship among Farm Women” for Extension Practitioners of African and Asian Countries

Date: 01-15th March, 2017

Venue: SAS Hall, KILA, Thrissur

Programme Schedule

1-Mar	Wednesday		
	09:30-11:00	Registration	
	11:30-01: 00	Registration	Kudumbashree
	14:45-16:00	Inaugural session	Annexure 1
	16:00-17:30	High Tea	
2-Mar	Thursday		
	09:30-11:00	Training orientation	Dr Ravi , PM , PMU
	11:00-01: 00	Pre test	Shibu N.P
	14:30-16:00	Introduction to Kudumbashree	Dr Rahul (Thematic anchor)Kudumbashree
	16:00	Visit to Trichur city	
3-Mar	Friday		
	09:30-11:00	Field visit Thrissur district	NHG
	11:30-01: 00	Kudumbashree units	CDS
	14:30-16:00		Nutrimix unit
	16:00-17:30		Micro enterprises
4-Mar	Saturday		
	09:30-11:00	Kudumbashree community structure (support structures)	Pramod K. P.O Organization

	11:30-01: 00	Micro enterprises model in Kudumbashree	Priya Paul (state programme manager)
	14:30-16:00	Nutrimix model	Jasmi Begum (Marketing Consultant)
	16:00-17:30	feed back and interaction	Jasmi Begum (Marketing Consultant)
5-Mar	Sunday		
6-Mar	Monday		
	09:30-11:00	Best practices in respective countries _presentation	Participating countries
	11:30-01: 00	Best practices in respective countries _presentation	Participating countries
	14:30-16:00	Agriculture activity in Kudumbashree	Dr Rahul (Thematic anchor)Kudumbashree
	16:00-17:30	Women entrepreneurship programme supported by agriculture university	DrGeethakutty Prof and Head, (Kerala agriculture university)
7-Mar	Tuesday		
	09:30-11:00	Agriculture university visit	interaction with the experts
	11:30-01: 00	Agriculture university visit	interaction with the experts
	14:30-16:00	Agriculture university visit	interaction with the experts
	16:00-17:30	Agriculture university visit	interaction with the experts
8-Mar	Wednesday		
	09:30-11:00	Malappuram district field visit	paddy producer company
	11:30-01: 00		paddy producer company
	14:30-16:00		labor collectives -labor bank

	16:00-17:30		labor collectives -labor bank
9-Mar	Thursday		
	09:30-11:00	Animal husbandry programme overview	DrSalim Coos (s)
	11:30-01:00	Kannur Goat producer company	DrShameena P M
	14:30-16:00	IMA Shree Dairy producer company	Bibinjose State programme manager
	16:00-17:30	feed backs and question and answer	
10-Mar	Friday		
	09:30-11:00	sapalam cashew co-operatives	Bibindvasu (state programme manager)
	11:30-01:00	madhuram - honey project	Patanamtitha district mission
	14:30-16:00	skilling for employment	Bibindvasu (state programme manager)
	16:00-17:30	plenary session - challenges of women agriprunership	Amurida P.O social development Seemabhaskaran COO Attapady project Soya Thomas P.M Gender
11-Mar	Saturday		
	09:30-11:00	field visit (Ernakulum district)	Pine shree unit (pineapple processing unit)
	11:30-01:00	field visit (Ernakulum district)	
	14:30-16:00	field visit (Ernakulum district)	
	16:00-17:30	field visit (Ernakulum district)	local visit
12-Mar	Sunday		
13-Mar	Monday		
	09:30-11:00	Field visit Alapuzha	Paddy co-operative
	11:30-01:00	Field visit	back waters /houseboat
	14:30-16:00	Field visit	

	16:00-17:30	Field visit	
14-Mar	Tuesday		
	09:30-11:00	Recap	
	11:30-01: 00	Group work	
	14:30-16:00	Group work	
	16:00-17:30	Group presentation	
15-Mar	Wednesday		
	09:30-11:00	Group presentation	
	11:30-01: 00	post test	
	14:30-16:00	Valedictory	
	16:00-17:30	Group photos	

Program Coordinators

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Ms. Elizabeth K Mulbah, Liberia
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Mr. Tubwangye Samuel
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Kansanga,
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Ms. RuqiaAzimi & Ms. Sajea Amarkhail, Afghanistan

Ms. Ruqia Azimi

Executive Manager to the Deputy Minister of Technical Affairs
Office of Deputy Minister Technical Affairs,
Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)
Kabul, Afghanistan



Ms. Sajea Amarkhail

Food Security and Nutrition Manager
Home Economics Department,
Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)
Kabul, Afghanistan



Activity	Introduce mushroom cultivation among women, and collectivization of the women cultivation groups
Problem	Mushroom cultivation is presently male dominant and there are inadequate extensions services for women in mushroom cultivation Women are presently not engaged in income generating activity because of cultural and security problem.
Indian Experience	Group mobilization of women has made them economically empowerment.
Place	Estalif district of Kabul city, Afghanistan, 50 women to be targeted in the initial period
Duration	6 months

Ms. Amy Esi Buah, Ghana

Ms. Amy Esi Buah
 Assistant Agriculture Officer,
 Policy, Planning and Budget Directorate,
 Ministry of Food and Agriculture
 Accra Ghana



Activity	<p>Develop a concept note on actively involving women in the cashew value chain</p> <p>Develop activities for sub programme in the next MTDP</p>
Problem	<p>Cashew is considered one of the cash crops in Ghana, Under sub programme 3 (<i>development of selected cash crop value chains</i>) of the medium term development plan (METASIP II) of the agri sector in Ghana, But much has not been done to actualize this plan, The programme of action for the planned period does not have any specific activity targeted at actualizing this</p> <p>The cashew nuts are only processed, fruits thrown away</p>
Indian Experience	<p>The cashew research station at the Kerala Agricultural University has solution to cashew fruits being thrown away</p> <p>Fruits are processed into a range of products; carbonated drink, syrup, candies, etc.</p>
Place	Head office of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), Ghana
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	<p>Have clear activities of development of cashew value chain to include women in the MTDP</p> <p>Provide economic gains for the women</p>
Any Other information	<p>Ghana is in the process of having a cashew development board</p> <p>This will be a good opportunity to introduce cashew fruit processing to the board in order to enhance the scope of the value chain activities of the commodity</p> <p>This will economically benefit our women</p>

Ms. Theresa AklehWayo, Ms. Juliet AmaSafoah, Ms. Danlette Elorm Quashigah, Ghana

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Activity	Sensitize female students of Ohawu Agricultural College as well as women at Ohawu community on group dynamics, gender concept and processing of cashew fruits. Mentor and monitor these women groups.
Problem	Poor group dynamics Waste of cashew fruits due to lack of knowledge on processing Lack of viable cashew fruit enterprises in the cashew value chain
Indian Experience	Kudumbashree women groups are more viable and enterprising due to proper group dynamics and gender sensitization. Cashew fruits were processed into five commercial food products. These products can be an income generating activity for a number of women in the cashew production areas to economically empower them.
Place	Ohawu, Volta region – Ghana
Duration	6 months

Expected end result	<p>A number of CIGs (commodity interest groups) formed in active business with improved standard of living</p> <p>A number of innovative products on the market</p>
Any other information	<p>To scale up this activity in other regions where cashew is produced by training the Regional Agricultural Officers (RAOs) to impart skill to the women through to districts and Agricultural Extension Agents (AEAs)</p>

Mr. John SilikhaniMukhwana, Kenya

John SilikhaniMukhwana
Principal Assistant Livestock Production Officer,
Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries
Homabay, Kenya



Activity	Record management
Problem	Poor record keeping and information retrieval by the groups
Indian Experience	All the community institutions visited has well documented records that were used by the group members and anyone interested
Place	Homabay County, Kenya
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	Updated and well documented records of the groups and activities in finances
Any Other information	The records will improve the image of the group to expose them for any financial needs they will require and be an example for other groups from their practices

Ms. Morara Mary Kerubo, Kenya

Ms. Morara Mary Kerubo
 Principle Agriculture Officer / County
 Coordinator Agriculture Sector Development
 Support Programme (ASDSP) - Nairobi
 County, Ministry of Agriculture
 Kenya



Activity	Broiler value chain group development to form Producer company in Nairobi
Problem	Reduced profitability inefficient forward and backward linkages
Indian Experience	Collectivisation of women farmers onto producer company help in economy of scale in input and marketing and also help in creating value added products
Place	Nairobi City County, Kenya
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	Broiler producer company initiation with the aim of coming up with branded products
Any Other information	The records will improve the image of the group to expose them for any financial needs they will require and be an example for other groups from their practices

Ms. Nancy Ruguru Kagau, Kenya

Nancy RuguruKagau
 Senior Assistant Director,
 State Department of Fisheries and The Blue Economy,
 Directorate of Fisheries
 Nairobi, Kenya



Activity	Farm fish marketing
Problem	Un coordinated marketing of farmed fish Harvested fish usually sold at farm gate and during exhibition
Indian Experience	Mobilization of women through NHG ADS CDS and JLGs Plan production cycles Value addition products
Place	Karurina -Embu, Kenya
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	Organized Women groups who can conduct marketing of fish and Fish products. Enhanced income from Aquaculture Improved nutrition

Ms. Rael Jelimo Lagat, Kenya

Rael Jelimo Lagat,
 Agricultural Officer,
 Country Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries
 ElgeyoMarakwet County
 Kenya



Activity	Promotion of collective farming/marketing among members of Bidii women group
Problem	Lack of collective farming Lack of collective marketing of farm produce Lack of team work Lack of commitment among the members
Indian Experience	There is collective farming/responsibility among the members of NHG Team work Frequent meetings Weekly savings that binds the members together Collective marketing
Place	ElgeyoMarakwet County, Kenya
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	Collective farming and marketing which will lead to high bargaining power hence better prices for their farm produce
Any Other information	The neighbouring groups will learn from Bidii women group once it is successful. I will then scale up to other groups in the ward level, then Sub county level and finally County level

Ms. Elizabeth K Mulbah, Liberia

Elizabeth K Mulbah, Liberia
 CEO of Nunu Farm
 Paynesvillie, Neezoe,
 Monrovia, Liberia



Activity	Capacity building of farmers to manufacture fish feed to increase the income from fish rearing
Problem	Unscientific feeding practices in fish farming
Indian Experience	Production of good quality nutritious food supplement by women groups under the Kudumbashree, showcases how good training can enable women to undertake different roles.
Place	Carelsysburg district, Montserrado county, Liberia
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	To enhance to productivity from own fish farming To produce good quality fish feeds which can be sold to other needy farmers there by enhancing the income

Ms. Nazonsa Cecilia, Nancy Chideru, Malawi

Ms. Nazonsa Cecilia

Agriculture Extension Development Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Water
 Development, Ntcheu District Agriculture
 Office, Manjawira, Malawi



Nancy Chideru
 Agricultural Extension Development Officer
 Blantyre 7, Malawi



Activity	Microenterprise group of women in food processing
Problem	Lack of capital and Confidence among women group to undertake any activity
Indian Experience	Community structure like neighborhood groups, ADS and CDS among the women group help the women groups to have easy access to bank linkage whom can avail loan and use the funds to lend to its members Easy to access market and being in groups enables them easy access of training opportunities.
Place	Manjawira extension planning area Ntcheu, Malawi
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	This food processing group it will help on sharing of labour, capital, credits and ideas among women enhance reduce poverty and it will increase confidence among women

Ms. Uledi Eliza, Malawi

Ms. Uledi Eliza
Agricultural Extension
Development Officer
Karonge, Malawi



Activity	Poultry farming groups of women
Problem	lack of capital, inadequate extension services, cultural believes, lack of readily available markets
Indian Experience	Formation of women groups through different innovations community structures like NHG, ADC and CDS. Team work which enables the group to have easy access to loans and markets
Place	Lyamayolo village, Karonga Malawi
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	Access to loan at the bank poverty eradication confidence among the women

Ms. Mirriam Atuswile Mwambila, Malawi

MirriamAtuswileMwambila
 Agricultural Extension
 Development Officer
 Lilongwe, Malawi



Activity	Microenterprise group of women in food processing unit and canteen unit
Problem	Lack of capital and Cultural habits among women making them more illiterate. Local shortage of staple food due lack of processing techniques
Indian Experience	Using community structure like neighbourhood groups, ADS AND CDS among the women group for facilitating credit and capital. To increase size of small farms and labour saving techniques like machines
Place	Local Rural working Area under Ministry of Agriculture in Lilongwe. Chigonthi EPA, Lumbadzi, Malawi
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	Collective marketing, better participation and recognition of women in agriculture. Reducing Poverty

Ms. Nandintsetseg Sookhuu, Ms. Nanrantungalag Surenjav, Ms. Ganchimeg Surenkhoro Guna, Ms. Altantuya Namsrai, Mongolia

Nandintsetseg Sookhuu

Senior Officer of Crop Production Technology Transfer & Agricultural Extension,

Department of Training Research and Information,
Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry,
Chingeltei District, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



Nanrantungalag Surenjav

Agronomist, "Munkh-Ulz" LLC Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Light Industry,

Mongolia



Ganchimeg Surenkhoro

Agronomist,

GUNA Agricultural Company,

Mongolia



Altantuya Namsrai

Agronomist, Lchka Co. Ltd.

Mongolia



Activity	Introduce vegetable cultivation among women and collectivise women for forward and backward linkages
Problem	Cultivation is male dominated especially of Onion and carrot Farmer are not using new techniques Reduced extension service for women in field of agriculture
Indian experience	Collectives of women, selection of right target group, field level coordination, extension and monitoring of the group activity

Place	TuvaimagBayantsogtsoum, Mongolia
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	<p>Women engaged in vegetable production to Increase the food security and nutrition of 30 household in Bayantsogtsoum</p> <p>Create a good source of income and increase the economic situation of targeted households</p> <p>Access of poor households to nutrient and complementary food.</p> <p>Create job opportunity at their home level among the targeted households</p>

Ms. Emerciana Antonio Muhacha, Mozambique

Emerciana Antonio Muhacha

Training Technique, National Directorate of
Agricultural Extension, Ministry of Agriculture
and Food Security

Andar, Mozambique



Activity	Processing of cashew pulp for marketing and medicinal value purposes
Problem	In Mozambique, most of cashew is produced for the commercialization of cashew nuts, but little or nothing of the cashew pulp is used
Indian Experience	From Indian experience the cashew pulp can provide us with juice, jam, sweets, syrup among others. Juice is used to treat diseases such as stomach pain and vomiting. These products may also be used for marketing purposes.
Place	Marracuene Research Center
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	Instil in target group the benefits of using cashew pulp; Provide solid knowledge in cashew pulp processing material; Contribute to the increase of incomes at the community level based on the cashew pulp; Improve the health in community families
Any Other Information	Write a project for the northern zone where is great concentration and production of the cashew tree and little or almost nothing takes advantage of the pulp

Mr. Muteekanga George Wilbroad Turyengana, Uganda

Mr. Muteekanga George
Principal Education Officer,
Department of Schools and Institutions,
Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES),
Kampala, Uganda



Activity	Develop a Monitoring mechanism for both formal and non-formal institutions and trainees in Uganda (piloting in one domain for further scaling up)
Problem	Lack of an effective and efficient Monitoring and follow up mechanism between training agencies, trainees and the community.
Indian Experience	Skilling for employment model for Kudumbashree Government involvement and support Research done in order to solve community problems Women empowerment was key in community development.
Place	Ministry of Education and Sports, Department of Higher Education
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	Clear record of number of training agencies in Uganda (Both formal and non-formal) Number of courses and course content offered in both formal and non-formal Number of trainees trained in the last academic year (both formal and non-formal institutions) Number of trainees placed / employed. (Where and how they are performing according to institutions) Community perception on the perception of trainees (Are they addressing the community needs) Improved quality checks from CSOs, EDF and other donor funding agencies.
Any Other Information	The results of this activity will help to improve the Education Management Information System (EMIS)

Mr. Tubwangye Samuel, Uganda

Mr. Tubwangye Samuel
 Agronomist, Green Innovation
 Technologies,
 Department of Agriculture Extension,
 Kansanga, Kampala, Uganda Kampala,
 Uganda



Activity	Promote Agricultural knowledge and skills through school gardens and greenhouses
Problem	Poor perception on farming or Agriculture by the young population (>10 – 18 < years) Malnutrition and hunger among school going children which limits their education performance
Indian Experience	Poverty alleviation through Agriculture and other small scale enterprises example of Kannur goat farmers, Thennala agro producer co (Malappuram) Control of pests and diseases using integrated pest management practices which ultimately reduce chemical usage; example use of, weed mats, biological agents like chiloris to reduce water hyacinth. New soil management approaches using vermicomposting Trainings and quality checks are offered to the technical field officers by both the state and the community
Place	Uganda Eastern region (Two schools per sub-county for three pilot districts)
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	Positive mind set towards Agriculture instilled among the young generation. Increased involvement of the young population in agricultural activities. Increased employment opportunities and production in the agricultural sector.
Any Other Information	The approach looks at the young generation as key stake holders/drivers towards the nation's future sustainable development.

LUYIMBAZI TONNIE STIEVE, UGANDA

Mr. Luyimbazi Tonnies Stieve
 Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist,
 Caritas Uganda, Uganda Catholic Secretariat,
 Ministry of Education, Science, Technology & Sports,
 Nasambya, Kampala, Uganda



Activity	Promote active participation of the local government structures in the leadership and management of women development initiatives.
Problem	<p>Limited participation and involvement of the government in the planning and implementation of rural development programmes,</p> <p>Government technical staff are not involved in the leadership and management of the farmer organizations (Associations and federations) which limits their access to technical support and financial support from government programmes.</p> <p>Substitution effects of the government roles and responsibilities by the Civil Society Organizations.</p>
Indian Experience	<p>Under the Kudumbashree model, the government structures and technical staff are involved in the management structures at the community organizations especially at the CDS level - This kind of structure and management helps to ensure that groups have access to not only technical support but also ensure that they have access to financial support from government.</p> <p>The periodic participatory monitoring and evaluation exercises organized between Kudumbashree staff, Group leaders and the government technical staff have played a critical role in the implementation and success of the various projects.</p> <p>Community organization structures (NHGs, ADS, CDS, JLGs and Producer Companies) – These structures and their management ensure community ownership and sustainability of interventions.</p> <p>Women empowerment as the cornerstone to rural community development.</p>
Place	Northern Uganda - Dokolo District – Lira diocese.
Duration	6 months
Expected end result	<p>Improved access to technical knowledge and skills on agribusiness and micro enterprise management among farm women.</p> <p>Increased local government budget allocations to support women development initiatives</p> <p>Increased sustainability of the positive results of the development initiatives in the community.</p>

Any Other Information

As part of the process, one other key activity is to Disseminate of the knowledge and skills acquired to fellow Organizational staff members especially the Programme Managers to share knowledge and information on the new approaches to rural women development. This meeting will help the teams to appreciate our challenges, re-examine our approaches and contextualize the Kudumbashree models into our development work.

In the medium term, dissemination and knowledge sharing events will be organized for other CSOs involved in community development work to create awareness about the Kudumbashree model and how it can be applicable to their development work. All the three (3) delegates that participated in this training will support these sharing events.

Annexure IV: feedback

Resource Person	Session	Av g.	Afgh anis tan		Ghana				Kenya				Liberia		Malawi					Mongolia				Moz amb ique		Uganda		
			1	2	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	1	2	1	2	3
Dr Ravi Nandi, Program Manager, PMU MANAGE	Introduction to programme and Back to work plan	8.0 4	9	8	8	9	7	9	8	7	9	9	8	7	7	9	7	8	7	9	8	8	8	9	7	9	7	
Dr Rahul.K, Thematic Anchor Kudumbashree	Introduction to Kudumbashree Organization	8.4 8	9	8	9	9	8	8	9	8	9	7	9	9	9	8	8	9	8	9	7	9	9	9	9	9	8	8
Dr Rahul.K,& Shibu N.P, Program Manager, Kudumbashree	Kudumbashree Community structures – Visit to Nadathara CDS	8.2 8	8	7	8	9	7	8	8	7	9	9	8	9	8	7	9	8	9	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	7
Pramod K, Program Officer, Organization, Kudumbashree	Kudumbashree Support structure	7.7 6	7	9	7	9	7	9	7	9	8	7	7	8	8	7	8	9	7	7	8	8	7	8	7	8	8	
Priya Paul, Program Manager, Microenterprises , Kudumbashree	Micro enterprise Model in Kudumbashree	8	8	8	9	9	7	7	9	7	8	7	9	8	8	9	7	8	7	9	7	8	8	9	7	8	9	
Jasmi Begum, State Consultant, Nutrimix	Nutrimix Model in Kudumbashree	7.7 2	7	8	7	8	7	8	7	8	7	9	9	9	9	7	7	8	8	8	7	7	8	9	7	7	7	
Dr Rahul.K, Thematic Anchor Kudumbashree	Agriculture Activity in Kudumbashree	8.1 7	8	9	8	9	9	8	7	9	9	7	7	9	9	7	7	9	8	7	9	9	8	8	8	8	8	

Dr Geetha Kutty, Professor & Project Co- ordinator, CGSAFED	Women Entrepreneurshi p programmes of Agriculture University	8.1 2	8	7	9	8	9	8	8	7	8	7	9	9	7	8	7	9	9	7	8	7	9	9	9	8	9
Binu N Kamalobhavan Assistant Professor, KAU	Tree based enterprises	8.0 4	9	8	9	7	7	9	9	8	7	9	9	8	7	9	7	8	7	8	8	7	9	9	7	9	7
Dr.K.B.Sheela, Professor & Head, Processing Technology, CoH, KAU	Fruit Processing Technologies	7.7 2	7	8	7	7	8	7	9	8	7	8	7	7	8	8	9	9	9	7	7	8	8	8	7	7	8
Dr.Jayashree Sankar.S, Professor, Soil Science, CoH, KAU	Vermi composting based Products	7.7 2	8	9	7	8	8	7	7	9	7	8	8	8	7	7	9	8	7	7	9	7	8	7	7	9	7
Dr.Madhu Subramaniam, Professor & Head, BCCP,KAU	Production of Bio-control Agents	8.0 8	9	8	9	8	8	7	8	7	9	7	8	9	7	8	8	9	7	8	7	9	9	8	7	9	9
Dr.M.R.Shilaja, Professor & Head, CPBMB,KAU	Tissue Culture based Planting Material Production	7.9 6	8	9	8	8	7	9	7	8	8	7	9	7	9	8	8	7	9	7	9	7	8	8	7	9	8
Dr.A.Latha, Professor & Head, Agricultural	Women Friendly Farm Machines	8.0 4	8	8	8	7	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	7	9	7	8	9	7	9	7	9	9	7	8	9

Dr.C.Narayanak utty, Professor Agricultural Research Station, KAU, Mannuthy	Grafted Planting Material Production	8.2	9	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	7	7	8	8	9	7	9	9	9	8	9
Dr.A.Sobhana, Professor & Head, Cashew Research Station, KAU, Madakkathara	Cashew Apple Products	8.4	9	8	9	9	7	9	8	9	8	9	9	9	7	8	8	9	7	7	9	9	8	8	9	9	9	9
Hemalatha, Distirct mission coordinator	Kudumbashree activity in Malappuram district	8.2	8	9	9	8	7	7	8	9	9	8	9	8	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	9	7	8	7	8	8
Yasmin, Managing Director, Thennala Agro Producer Company	Paddy Producer company activity	7.9	6	8	8	8	9	8	9	7	8	8	7	9	8	9	7	8	7	8	8	9	7	9	8	7	7	8
Dr Salim COO (S)	Animal Husbandry activities in Kudumbashree	7.8	8	8	7	7	9	8	9	7	8	8	7	9	8	9	7	8	7	8	8	9	7	9	8	7	7	8
Nishant, State consultant, Producer collectives	Kannur Goat Producer Company	8.0	4	9	8	8	7	7	9	8	7	8	9	7	8	7	8	8	9	9	7	7	8	9	8	8	9	9
Bipin Jose. Program Manager	IMA Shree Dairy Producer Company	8.0	8	8	9	7	8	8	9	9	8	7	8	8	7	9	7	8	7	8	9	7	9	9	8	8	8	9

Soya Thomas, Program Manager, Gender	Gender empowerment activities of Kudumbashree	7.8	7	8	9	8	9	7	7	9	9	7	8	7	8	8	8	7	9	8	8	7	7	8	7	8	7	
Amrida, Program Officer, Social development	Social Development Activities of Kudumbashree'	8.2	8	9	8	9	8	8	9	8	8	9	8	7	9	7	9	7	8	9	9	7	9	8	9	7	9	9
Bibind Vasu, State program Manager	Cashew Collectives, Skill trainings programs	8.2	8	9	9	8	8	9	7	8	9	8	9	7	9	8	9	8	7	9	7	8	7	9	8	8	8	9
Sunil, ADMC, Kudumbashree	Kudumbashree activities in Alapuzza District- Mushroom collectives	8	8	8	9	8	9	9	8	9	9	8	8	8	7	8	7	7	9	8	7	8	7	8	7	8	8	8
Dr P. Chandrasekara, Director (Agri Extn) MANAGE	Agri start up through Agriprunership development	8.3	6	9	8	9	9	9	8	8	7	9	7	7	9	9	7	8	8	9	9	9	8	8	9	9	8	9
Food facility		7.9	2	8	7	9	8	8	8	9	8	7	9	8	8	9	7	8	7	8	7	8	7	7	8	9	8	8
Accommodation facility		8.5	2	1	0	9	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	10	0	1	8	9	8	9	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	10
Transport facility		8.5	6	9	8	9	8	8	10	8	8	8	9	8	9	8	9	8	9	8	9	9	8	9	8	10	8	9
Overall impressions of the Training programme		8.6	4	1	0	8	9	8	9	10	8	8	8	9	8	9	8	9	8	9	9	8	9	8	10	8	9	

Annexure V: Pre and Post Test

Sl.No.	Name	Pre test	Post test	Percentage change
1.	Ruqia Azimi	13	14	8%
2.	Sajea Amarkhail	9	11	22%
3.	Amy Esi Buah	20	23	15%
4.	Danlette Elorm Quashigah	19	22	16%
5.	Juliet Ama Safoah	16	21	31%
6.	Theresa Charlotte Akler Wayo	18	22	22%
7.	Rael Jelimo Lagat	19	22	16%
8.	Dr.Mary Kerubo Morara	21	23	10%
9.	Mukhwana John Silikhani	20	23	15%
10.	Nancy Ruguru Kagau	17	23	35%
11.	Nancy Chideru	14	17	21%
12.	Miriam Atuswile Mwambila	13	15	15%
13.	Eliza Uledi	13	19	46%
14.	Cecilia Nazonse	11	19	73%
15.	Chisomo Phiri	16	18	13%
16.	Altantuya Namsrai	11	16	45%
17.	Nandintsetseg Sookhuu	12	13	8%
18.	Narantungalag Surenjav	10	16	60%
19.	Ganchimeg Surenkhorloo	11	13	18%
20.	Kona S. Kollie	8	11	38%
21.	Elizabeth K Mulbah	13	17	31%
22.	Emerciana Antonio Muhacha	13	19	46%
23.	Luyimbazi Tonnie Stieve	20	24	20%
24.	George Wilbroad	18	23	28%
25.	Tubwangye Samuel	20	24	20%
	Average	15	19	25%

Annexure VI: Media reports



Hindu newspaper dated 02.03.2017



മലപ്പുറത്തെ കുടുംബശ്രീ ജില്ലാ മിഷൻ ഓഫീസിലെത്തിയ വിദേശ പ്രതിനിധികളെ കുടുംബശ്രീ ജില്ലാ മിഷൻ കോഓർഡിനേറ്റർ സി.കെ. ഹേമലത സന്ദർശിക്കുന്നു. ചിത്രം: മനോരമ

കൂടുതൽ
പ്രാദേശിക
വാർത്തകൾ -
4, 7, 15, 18

കുടുംബശ്രീയെ അടുത്തറിയാൻ
വിദേശസംഘം ജില്ലയിൽ

അവർ പൊഴിച്ചത് അഹ്ഗാനിന്റെ കണ്ണീർ



അഹ്ഗാനിസ്ഥാനിൽ നിന്നെത്തിയ റുഖിയ, സാജിയ എന്നിവർ.

കയുന്നില്ല. ഭൂരിഭാഗം പേരും ഭക്ഷണം കിട്ടാതെ പ്രയാസത്തിലാണ്. ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ പ്രത്യേകിച്ച്. ഒരു നേരമെങ്കിലും കഴിക്കാൻ കിട്ടിയാൽ കുശാലായി എന്ന നിലയിലാണു കാര്യങ്ങൾ. എല്ലാം ശരിയാകുമെന്ന പ്രതീക്ഷയിലാണു ഞങ്ങൾ ഉൾപ്പെടെയുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥർ. തിരിച്ചു നാട്ടിലെത്തിയാൽ ഭക്ഷ്യസുരക്ഷയുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട പുതിയ പദ്ധതികൾ ആവിഷ്കരിക്കാനുള്ള ചില ആശയങ്ങൾ കേരളത്തിലെ പരിശീലനത്തിൽ നിന്നു കിട്ടിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

അരക്ഷിതാവസ്ഥയിലാണു ഞങ്ങളുടെ ജീവിതമെന്ന് അഹ്ഗാൻ പ്രതിനിധികൾ. അഹ്ഗാനിസ്ഥാൻ കൃഷി മന്ത്രാലയത്തിൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥരായ റുഖിയ, സാജിയ എന്നിവരാണു കേരളത്തിൽ പരിശീലനത്തിനെത്തിയ സംഘത്തിലുള്ളത്. വെടിയൊച്ചകൾക്കു നടുവിൽ ജീവിക്കേണ്ട ഗതികേടിലാണു രാജ്യത്തെ സാധാരണക്കാരെന്ന് ഇരുവരും പറയുന്നു.

ഇരുവരും പറഞ്ഞത്: ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിലേക്കു പോകാനേ കഴിയില്ല. എല്ലായിടത്തും യുദ്ധവും വെടിവയ്പ്പുമാണ്. തലസ്ഥാനമായ കാബൂളിൽ കൂഴപ്പമില്ല. ഞങ്ങൾ ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നതും താമസിക്കു

ന്നതും കാബൂളിലാണ്. ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ സ്ത്രീകൾക്കു തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കലില്ല. ഭക്ഷണമുണ്ടാക്കുക, വിറകു ശേഖരിക്കുക, കാലികളെ നോക്കുക എന്നിങ്ങനെ പോകുന്നു അവരുടെ ജോലി. നഗരങ്ങളിൽ സ്ഥിതി വ്യത്യസ്തമാണ്. പെൺകുട്ടികളെ സ്കൂളിൽ അയയ്ക്കാനും മറ്റും മാതാപിതാക്കൾക്കു താൽപര്യമാണ്. ഒട്ടേറെപ്പേർ ഇപ്പോൾ വിദേശത്തുപോയി പഠിക്കുന്നുമുണ്ട്. ആപ്പിളും മാതളനാരങ്ങയും (ഉറുമ്പമ്പഴവും) ഇഷ്ടം പോലെ ഞങ്ങളുടെ നാട്ടിലുണ്ട്. ഗോതമ്പും നന്നായി വിളയും. പക്ഷേ, ജനത്തിന് ഇതൊന്നും തി

African team awestruck by Kudumbashree paddy farm at Thennala

"We should also have such farms in Africa, to make our land green and prosperous", they said.

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The delegates from Africa visiting the paddy farm managed by the Kudumbashree CDS at Madakkappadam in Thennala

Kottakkal: The 1300-acre paddy farm managed by the Kudumbashree CDS at Madakkappadam in Thennala, has earned quite a few fans, Kona being one of them.

"We should also have such farms in Africa, to make our land green and prosperous", she said.

Kona S Koli is part of a visiting team from Africa, who is also the founder of Woman Organisation for Improvement (WOFIM) in Liberia.

She along with her team members were taken by awe when Yasmin Arimbra, the leader of the CDS team, explained their successful journey to them.

Yasmin explained to them how most of the work on the 1300-acre farm is done by women. "An acre yields Rs. 25,000 in a season giving a reasonable standard of life to the 500 women farmers", she said.

George from Uganda was also impressed by the field and its viability and chipped in saying that the model was very necessary for a country like Africa where women are very backward.

He just had one confusion as to why Indian schools cannot give an off to the children during the sowing and harvesting seasons like they do in Africa adding that this improves manpower availability.

The team was also treated to a lunch with Thennala rice payasam and sadya. While some struggled to eat with their hand, others finished their meals very quickly.