





## National Young Professionals Development Program on New Competencies, Career Opportunities and Research Priorities in Agricultural Extension

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

March 24-28, 2025

National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad

### Program Objectives

-  To explore the scope and untapped global opportunities in agricultural extension
-  To identify possible job opportunities, essential skills and ways to develop better competencies

### DAY 1: March 24, 2025

#### Session I: Introduction to the training program, Agricultural Extension Discipline – Current Status of Agricultural Extension, Self Reflection & Understanding

This session inaugurates the program and provides an introduction to the evolving field of agricultural extension. It covers emerging research traditions, modern approaches, and innovative tools in extension services. The session highlights key trends and developments shaping the future of agricultural extension.

Duration	Particulars	Speaker/Activities
09.00-09.15	About MANAGE	Team MANAGE
09.15-10.30	About NYPDP	Team MANAGE
10.30-11.00	Group Photo & Networking	NYPDP Participants
11.00-11.30	High Tea	

#### Session II: Benchmarking & Understanding Agricultural Extension Discipline

This session aims to assess the current understanding of agricultural extension among postgraduate and doctoral scholars. It also seeks to explore the scholars' competencies, time management strategies, and digital media engagement in both professional and personal contexts. Furthermore, the session will examine the scholars' perceptions of the agricultural extension discipline, both personally and as perceived by others

11.30-13.00	Benchmarking of Agricultural Extension Discipline	Individual & Group Exercise
13.00-14.00	Lunch Break	
<b>Session III: New Competencies, Job Opportunities and Research Priorities in Agricultural Extension</b> This session focused on the critical need for agricultural extension professionals to update their skills and competencies that match modern challenges. Furthermore, it highlighted the importance of identifying and addressing new research priorities in agricultural extension.		
14.00-15.30	New Competencies and Job Opportunities for Agricultural Extension	Dr. Saravanan Raj Director (Agricultural Extension) MANAGE
15.30-16.00	Tea Break	
16.00-17.00	Research Priorities in Agricultural Extension	Dr. Saravanan Raj Director (Agricultural Extension) MANAGE
17.00-18.00	Continuing Session II - Group Presentation on Activity	Participants
<b>DAY 2: March 25, 2025</b>		
<b>Session IV: Building New Capacities in Agricultural Extension, Policy Engagement and Network Analysis in Behavioral Science Research</b> This session explored emerging competencies for extension professionals, emphasizing policy engagement strategies and the application of network analysis in understanding behavioral dynamics within agricultural communities. Extensionists can enhance program effectiveness, strengthen farmer engagement, and drive impactful policy reforms in agricultural extension systems by mastering these competencies.		
09.00-09.30	Recap of Day 1	
09.30-11.00	ICTs & Digital Competencies for Agricultural Extension: Navigating New Frontiers	Dr. Saravanan Raj Director (Agricultural Extension) MANAGE
11.00-11.30	Tea Break	
11.30-13.00	New Capacities for Agricultural Extension	Dr. Rasheed Sulaiman Director Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP) Hyderabad
13.00-14.00	Lunch break	
14.00- 15.30	Policy Engagement for Agricultural Extension	Dr. Rasheed Sulaiman Director Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP) Hyderabad
15.30-16.00	Tea break	

16.00-17.30	Network Analysis in Behaviour Science Research	Dr. Sreeram Vishnu Assistant Professor, Kerala Agricultural University (KAU)
<b>DAY 3: March 26, 2025</b>		
<b>Session V: Visit to Access Livelihoods and C-DAC and Emerging Approaches in Social Science Research</b>		
This session offers a comprehensive learning experience, including insightful visits to the NGO Access Livelihoods and the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC). These visits provide participants with a unique opportunity to understand practical approaches in community development, livelihood enhancement, and technological advancements. Additionally, the session delves into emerging research methodologies, emphasizing innovative techniques for measuring social impact and scaling social research initiatives.		
08.00-12.00	<p>Visit to Access Livelihoods Consulting (ALC)</p> <p>Access Livelihoods (AL) is a social enterprise that work with marginalised communities to reimagine their livelihoods. AL offers end-to-end support to the marginalised communities, implementations of sustainable agriculture practices, value chain extension, innovative models highlighting the role of extension services beyond the transfer of technology and efforts in promoting Community Extension and Entrepreneurship Systems. AL partners with more than 65,000 marginalised producers, including small and marginal farmers, weavers, tribal, and small livestock holders.</p>	ALC, Hyderabad
13.00-14.00	Lunch break	
14.00-15.30	Emerging Approaches in Measurement and Scaling in Social Research	Dr. P. Sethuraman Sivakumar Principal Scientist, CTCRI Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
15.30-16.00	Tea break	
16.00-17.30	<p>Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)</p> <p>The centre is a Knowledge Centre with the components of Knowledge Creation, Knowledge Dissemination, and Knowledge Application to grow in the areas of Research &amp; Development, Training, Services, Outreach, and Business respectively. C-DAC is also actively contributing through ICT for social development initiatives, particularly in the fields of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Blockchain technology, Machine Learning (ML), and Big Data in Agriculture. Participants can learn about various software applications</p>	C-DAC, Hyderabad

	developed specifically for agricultural purposes	
18.00-20.00	Exploring Hyderabad	
<b>DAY 4: March 27, 2025</b>		
<b>Session VI: Career Opportunities in Extension Education, Extension for Organic Farming and Gender equality</b>		
This session highlighted the importance of global learning opportunities, organic farming practices, gender-inclusive extension strategies, and advanced research methodologies in strengthening agricultural extension systems. Participants gained insights into practical tools and approaches to enhance impact at both community and policy levels.		
08.00-09.00	Graduate Study and Career Opportunities in Extension Education and Evaluation in the United States	Dr. Vikram Koundinya Associate Professor of Extension & Evaluation Specialist University of California, Davis & Ms. Sravani Reddy, Ph.D Scholar University of Florida, USA & Ms. Laxmi Prasanna Kandi Ph.D Scholar Texas A&M University, USA
09.00-10.00	Experiences, Dilemmas, Role of Mentorship, Challenges and Ways to Overcome Them	Dr. Parmveer Singh Postdoctoral Fellow University of Saskatchewan Canada
10.00-11.00	Professional Specialization and Excellence in Agricultural Extension	Group Exercise
11.00-11.30	Tea break	
11.30-13.00	Professional Specialization and Excellence in Agricultural Extension	Group Exercise
13.00-14.00	Lunch break	
14.00-15.00	Extension for Organic Farming	Dr. Mahesh Chander Principal Scientist, IVRI
15.00-15.30	Tea break	
15.30-16.30	Extension for Entrepreneurship and Gender Equality	Dr. Mahesh Chander Principal Scientist, IVRI
16.30-18.00	Exploring Policy Pathways: Engagement Opportunities and Key Competencies	Dr. Suchiradipta Bhattacharjee Policy Engagement Specialist IWMI
19.00-20.30	Pre Dinner Session and Cultural Program	
<b>DAY 5: March 28, 2025</b>		

### Session VII: Exploring Research Trends, Monitoring & Evaluation, and Focus Group Discussion Techniques for Extension Professionals

This session covers the robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks and focus group discussions offer valuable qualitative insights when conducted with diverse participants and skilled facilitation together, these elements create responsive extension systems that address farmers' needs, demonstrate impact, and inform future interventions

09.00-09.15	Recap of Day 4	
09.15-10.00	Research Trends and Publications Focusing on Bibliometric Analysis	Dr. S Raahalya MANAGE Fellow
10.00 -11.00	Monitoring & Evaluation: Competencies for Extension Professionals	Dr. P. V. K. Sasidhar Professor School of Extension and Development Studies IGNOU, New Delhi
11.00 -11.30	Tea Break	
11.30 -13.00	Methods to Conduct Focus Group Discussion – Demonstration	Dr. P. V. K. Sasidhar Professor School of Extension and Development Studies IGNOU, New Delhi
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch break	
14.00 -15.30	Sharing Insights	Participants
15.30 -16.00	Tea break	
16.00 -18.00	Take Home Message and Action Plan	Participants and Team MANAGE

#### Program Director

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