



MANAGE Internship: Bridging Knowledge with Practice



Not Just an Internship, But an Experience That Shaped My Perspective

I am Gauri Jaguri, from Uttarakhand. I have completed Masters of Rural Technology from Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University (HNBGU), Srinagar, Uttarakhand.

 [Gauri Jaguri](#)

"OBSTACLES DON'T STOP YOU—THEY TRAIN YOU TO RISE STRONGER EACH TIME."

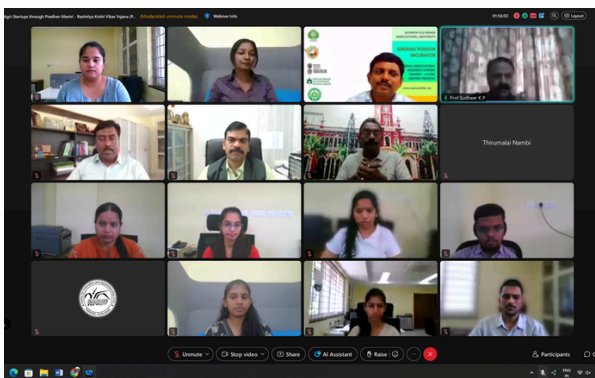


My six-month internship at MANAGE-CIA has been a journey of exploration, learning, and transformation. What began with curiosity to understand how incubation centres nurture startups gradually evolved into meaningful, hands-on experience.

I had the opportunity to coordinate Saturday webinars from planning to execution, followed by post-event documentation and reporting. My role extended to preparing compendiums, infographics, annual reports, startup mapping, and handling official documentation processes. I was also involved in program coordination, due diligence procedures, fund release processes, and direct interactions with inspiring entrepreneurs and startup founders.

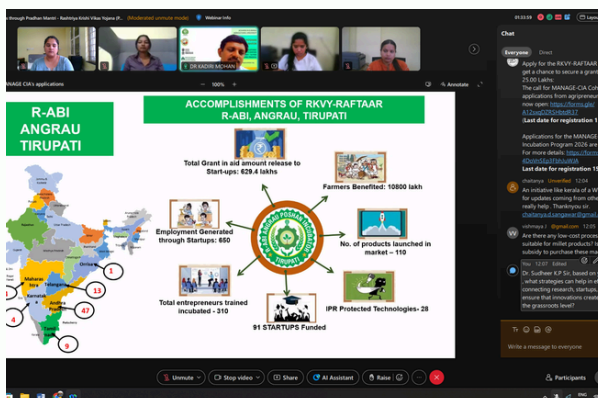
Each responsibility pushed me beyond my comfort zone, helping me build confidence, develop professional skills, and gain a deeper understanding of the agri-startup ecosystem. This experience has not only strengthened my capabilities but also allowed me to contribute meaningfully to the innovation and entrepreneurship landscape.

Internship Expectations



Discovering My Strengths: Managing Saturday Webinars from Planning to Seamless Delivery

Coordinating Saturday webinars at MANAGE-CIA became one of the most enriching aspects of my internship, allowing me to translate theoretical understanding into real-time professional practice. I was entrusted with managing the end-to-end coordination process—from initial planning and speaker communication to final execution. This involved scheduling sessions, liaising with speakers and internal teams, ensuring readiness of presentation materials, and maintaining clear and timely communication across all stakeholders.



During the live sessions, I played an active role in ensuring the smooth flow of the webinar by handling technical coordination, managing time effectively, and addressing any unforeseen challenges with prompt decision-making. Post-webinar responsibilities included documentation, report preparation, and maintaining records for institutional use. This continuous engagement across different stages of the webinar lifecycle strengthened my ability to multitask, remain detail-oriented, and work efficiently under pressure.

This experience significantly enhanced my professional competencies, particularly in communication, coordination, and problem-solving. It pushed me beyond my comfort zone and helped me develop confidence in handling responsibilities independently. More importantly, it gave me a deeper appreciation of how well-executed knowledge-sharing platforms contribute to capacity building and ecosystem development, making my role both impactful and personally transformative.

**FOR REFERENCE, THE WEBINAR RECORDING IS AVAILABLE AT:
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@MANAGECIA/STREAMS](https://www.youtube.com/@MANAGECIA/STREAMS)**

"From Idea to Impact: Success Stories of Agri-Startups"
 Saturday 28th March, 2024
 11.00 am to 12.00 nn

6th Year
 MANAGE Saturday Webinar Series for Agri-Startup Ecosystem 2024 Webinar

Registration Link: <https://www.manage.gov.in/>

MANAGE-Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship
 National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management
 (An Organisation of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India)
 Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030, Telangana
<https://www.manage.gov.in/managecia/>

Speakers **A Session with Experts**

Mr. Gaurav Kumar Choudhary
 Founder & CEO

MANAGE-Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA) is a Centre of Excellence in Agribusiness Incubation hosted at the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE). It is one of the leading agribusiness incubators in India, having incubated 630 and mentored 1164 Agripreneurs and agri-startups from various focus areas of the agriculture and allied sectors.

Agri-startups are transforming innovative ideas into real-world impact by addressing critical challenges in agriculture such as productivity, sustainability, and market access. With the integration of technologies like IoT, AI, precision farming, and data analytics, these startups are enabling farmers to make smarter decisions, reduce costs, and improve yields. From farm-to-fork supply chain solutions to digital marketplaces and smart irrigation systems, agri-entrepreneurs are reshaping a traditional

"Promoting Agri-Startup Pradhan Mantri-Rashtriya Krishi Vil"
 Saturday 04th April, 2024
 11.00 am to 12.00 nn

MANAGE-Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship
 National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management
 (An Organisation of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India)
 Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030, Telangana, IN
<https://www.manage.gov.in/managecia/>

Speakers

Dr. Saravanan Raj
 Director (Agriculture Extension), MANAGE & CEO, MANAGE-CIA and MANAGE-FISHUB

Dr. Sudheer K P
 Head, REXT Agribusiness Incubator & ICAR National Fellow at KAU

Mr. A.V Gnanasambandam
 Managing Director and CEO, ABS-TB, TNAU, Coimbatore.

Dr. Johnson Stanley
 Director and CEO, NRIHub, ICAR-IMR

Registration Link: <https://www.manage.gov.in/>

"Marketing Strategies: Effective Digital Marketing for Agri-Tech Products"

Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA)
 National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE)

Registration Link: <https://www.manage.gov.in/>

From Coordination to Execution: Managing Large-Scale Events and Stakeholder Engagement

This experience enhanced my analytical thinking, documentation skills, and ability to present complex information in a simplified manner. It strengthened my proficiency in content structuring, data interpretation, and professional reporting. More importantly, it helped me understand the importance of well-organized information in supporting policy decisions, fostering innovation, and strengthening the agri-startup ecosystem, making my contribution both valuable and impactful.

Additionally, I played a significant role in facilitating MANAGE-CIA's institutional participation in prominent outreach platforms such as the National Oilseed Kisan Mela hosted by ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research and Udyan Utsav. These platforms served as critical interfaces for fostering linkages among startups, farmers, researchers, policymakers, and industry stakeholders. My responsibilities included coordinating startup representation, streamlining communication channels, supporting event operations, and ensuring effective institutional visibility aligned with organizational objectives.

These engagements significantly enhanced my understanding of stakeholder ecosystem development, strategic outreach, and institutional program management. They enabled me to strengthen competencies in leadership, coordination, and adaptive decision-making while operating in dynamic professional environments. More importantly, these experiences offered a broader perspective on how collaborative platforms can accelerate innovation diffusion, strengthen entrepreneurial networks, and contribute to the advancement of sustainable agricultural development.

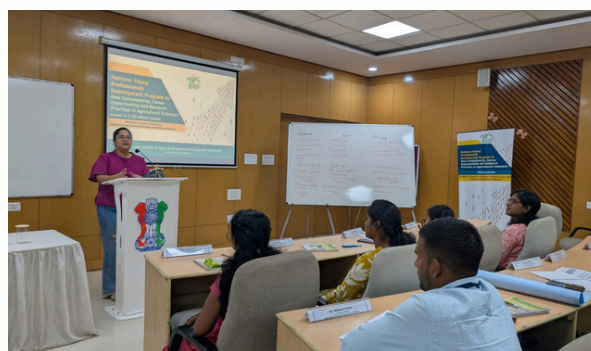


Expanding Horizons Through Programs, Events, and Institutional Visits

Throughout my internship at MANAGE-CIA, I actively participated in a wide range of exposure visits, institutional engagements, startup interactions, and outreach initiatives that significantly expanded my professional understanding of the agri-startup ecosystem. These experiences enabled me to gain practical exposure beyond routine office responsibilities by directly engaging with entrepreneurs, incubation centres, academic institutions, and innovation stakeholders. Through these interactions, I developed a broader perspective on how startups are nurtured, evaluated, and scaled within India's agricultural innovation landscape.

A major component of this exposure involved accompanying Cohort 14 participants during institutional visits to NutriHub, ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research and ICRISAT, where I observed incubation support systems, startup mentoring frameworks, and innovation-driven agricultural solutions. Additionally, I was involved in multiple startup interactions and verification visits under the RKVY-RAFTAAR program, where I closely observed startup operations, milestone progress, business models, and implementation strategies. These visits provided firsthand insights into due diligence processes, startup performance assessment, and the practical challenges faced by emerging agripreneurs.

Beyond visits, I also contributed to several outreach and capacity-building initiatives by delivering sessions to students from KL University on MANAGE-CIA's cohort programs and startup ecosystem initiatives. I further had the opportunity to address participants of the National Young Professional Development Program (NYPDP), where I shared my internship journey, professional learnings, and contributions at MANAGE-CIA. Participation in these outreach engagements, along with numerous startup visits and institutional interactions, strengthened my communication abilities, professional confidence, and understanding of ecosystem development while reinforcing my interest in innovation, mentorship, and entrepreneurial development.



A Culture of Learning, Collaboration, and Professional Growth



Over the course of my six-month internship at MANAGE-CIA, I experienced an environment that continuously fostered learning, innovation, and professional development. From the dynamic work culture to the collaborative ecosystem, every day presented new opportunities to learn, contribute, and grow. The organization provided a platform where creativity was encouraged, responsibilities were entrusted with confidence, and mistakes were viewed as valuable learning experiences. This environment played a significant role in shaping both my professional capabilities and personal confidence.

Working under the leadership of Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE and CEO, MANAGE-CIA, provided me with invaluable exposure to visionary leadership, strategic thinking, and innovation-driven execution. His approach toward building entrepreneurial ecosystems and promoting agri-innovation served as a constant source of inspiration throughout my internship journey. I also received continuous guidance and support from Ms. Usha Sree, Manager, MANAGE-CIA, whose mentorship helped me navigate responsibilities effectively and develop a more structured professional approach. The collaborative support from colleagues, team members, and fellow interns further created a positive and motivating work environment.

This internship allowed me to move beyond academic learning by taking ownership of real-world responsibilities across program coordination, documentation, stakeholder engagement, startup interactions, and institutional outreach. It became a journey of discovering hidden strengths, building resilience, and developing adaptability in a professional setting. What began with curiosity gradually transformed into a meaningful experience that strengthened my confidence, broadened my perspective, and prepared me for future opportunities in the fields of rural development, innovation, and entrepreneurship.



Memorable Experiences and Key Moments

Reflecting on my six-month internship at MANAGE-CIA, several experiences stand out as particularly meaningful milestones that shaped my professional journey. Coordinating the Saturday Webinar Series provided me with opportunities to engage with entrepreneurs, industry experts, policymakers, and innovators from diverse sectors. Being involved in the complete lifecycle of these webinars—from planning and coordination to execution and documentation—allowed me to witness firsthand the role of knowledge dissemination in strengthening the agri-startup ecosystem.



A particularly memorable moment during my internship was the opportunity to be featured in a MANAGE-CIA podcast, where I shared my experiences, key learnings, and professional growth achieved during the six-month internship period. This interaction provided me with a platform to reflect on my journey and articulate how the internship had contributed to enhancing my confidence, professional outlook, and understanding of innovation-driven entrepreneurship. It was a moment of recognition that made me appreciate the significance of my contributions more deeply.

In addition to these experiences, participation in major events, institutional visits, startup interactions, and outreach engagements added immense value to my journey. Delivering sessions, interacting with startup founders, and contributing to high-impact organizational initiatives created moments that were both professionally rewarding and personally fulfilling. These experiences remain memorable not only because of the responsibilities I handled but because they represented milestones in my continuous journey of learning, growth, and self-discovery.

युवाओं के लिए मत्स्य क्षेत्र में स्वरोजगार की अपार संभावनाएं: प्रो. बलदेव राज काम्बोज हकृवि में चार दिवसीय एक्वा उद्यम-2026 का हुआ शुभारंभ



Key Takeaways and the Way Forward

My six-month internship at MANAGE-CIA has been a transformative learning experience that significantly enhanced both my professional competencies and personal confidence. Throughout this journey, I gained practical exposure to multiple dimensions of the agri-startup ecosystem, including program coordination, stakeholder engagement, official documentation, startup due diligence, fund release processes, and institutional outreach. These responsibilities enabled me to bridge academic knowledge with practical implementation while developing a deeper understanding of innovation-driven entrepreneurship.

A major takeaway from this experience has been the development of strong communication, coordination, and strategic documentation skills. From managing end-to-end execution of Saturday webinars to preparing compendiums, infographics, startup mapping reports, annual documentation, and institutional communication materials, I learned how effective communication and knowledge management contribute to organizational growth. Additionally, interactions with startup founders, institutional stakeholders, and industry experts strengthened my professional network and provided valuable insights into the operational realities of entrepreneurial ecosystems. me to bridge academic knowledge with practical implementation while developing a deeper understanding of innovation-driven entrepreneurship.

This internship also contributed significantly to my personal growth by enhancing my confidence in public speaking, adaptability in dynamic environments, leadership capabilities, and ability to manage responsibilities independently. Moving forward, I aim to further build my career at the intersection of rural development, innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable development. The experiences gained at MANAGE-CIA have provided me with a strong professional foundation and reinforced my commitment to contributing meaningfully toward agricultural innovation and rural transformation.



Key Learnings-

- Strengthened expertise in program coordination and stakeholder management
- Developed competencies in official documentation, reporting, and knowledge management
- Gained practical exposure to startup evaluation, due diligence, and fund release mechanisms
- Enhanced communication, public speaking, and professional networking abilities
- Developed adaptability, leadership, and problem-solving skills in dynamic work environments
- Built deeper understanding of innovation ecosystems, entrepreneurship development, and rural transformation initiatives

This journey has reinforced my belief that every responsibility presents an opportunity for growth, and every challenge contributes to building stronger professional capabilities.

To understand the foundation of this journey, my first three-month internship experience at MANAGE-CIA can be accessed here:

<https://www.manage.gov.in/managecia/ManageCIAInternships/Gauri%20Jaguri.pdf>

A Transformative Internship Journey at MANAGE-CIA

“Growth begins when curiosity meets opportunity, and true transformation happens when responsibilities turn into purpose.”



My six-month internship at MANAGE-CIA has been a transformative journey of learning, professional development, and self-discovery. What initially began as an opportunity to understand the functioning of an incubation centre gradually evolved into an enriching experience that provided me with extensive exposure to India’s growing agri-startup ecosystem.

Entering the organization with curiosity and enthusiasm, I was eager to understand how institutions contribute toward fostering entrepreneurship, supporting innovation, and building sustainable startup ecosystems. Over time, this curiosity transformed into meaningful engagement with real-world responsibilities that strengthened both my professional competencies and personal confidence.

Working at MANAGE-CIA provided me with an opportunity to closely observe how institutional frameworks support startups through mentorship, capacity building, funding facilitation, ecosystem development, and strategic outreach initiatives. Being associated with an organization that actively promotes agricultural innovation exposed me to multiple dimensions of entrepreneurship development beyond academic learning. Each assignment allowed me to better understand how startups navigate challenges related to innovation, scalability, market access, and institutional support while contributing toward sustainable agricultural development.

One of the most defining aspects of my internship was the diverse range of responsibilities entrusted to me, which provided extensive exposure to the agri-startup ecosystem. From coordinating the Saturday Webinar Series—including speaker communication, planning, execution, and post-event documentation—to contributing to compendiums, infographics, startup mapping, annual reports, due diligence processes, stakeholder engagement programs, outreach initiatives, and startup interactions, each responsibility strengthened my leadership, communication, and problem-solving abilities. Additionally, participation in institutional visits, startup engagements, and national-level events allowed me to interact with entrepreneurs, policymakers, researchers, and industry professionals, broadening my understanding of innovation ecosystems. More than professional exposure, this journey transformed me personally by building resilience, confidence, and a stronger vision for contributing meaningfully to rural development and entrepreneurship.

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