June 2025

MANAGE – KAU Agri-Startup Stakeholders Connect

Kerala Agricultural University (KAU)
Thrissur

June 20, 2025

Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA)
National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE)
(An Organisation of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030, Telangana, India

MANAGE

The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India is an apex body for Agricultural Extension Management in India. MANAGE offers services like Capacity building, Management Education, Piloting and Implementing Flagship National Schemes, Consultancy, Research, Knowledge Management and Policy Advocacy in Agricultural Extension Management.

MANAGE - Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA)

MANAGE-CIA a Centre of Excellence Agri-Business Incubator hosted at MANAGE, one of the leading agri-business Incubators in India. MANAGE-CIA is supporting, guiding and mentoring the Agripreneurs and Agri-startups in Agriculture and Allied sectors. MANAGE-CIA is the Knowledge Partner for strengthening, handholding and demonstrating best practices to the Agri-Business Incubators (R-ABIs) of Agri-Innovation and Entrepreneurship program of RKVY-RAFTAAR, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. MANAGE-CIA has mentored 1044 Agri-startups and incubated 507 startups in the last six years. Apart from training and mentoring, MANAGE-CIA is facilitating Agri-startups with creating networks, collaborations, market linkages and extended end-to-end support for scaling-up their business. MANAGE is committed in developing the agri-business and Agri-startup ecosystem of the country.

Kerala Agricultural University (KAU)

Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) is the apex institution in Kerala for agricultural education, research, and extension. With a mission to support sustainable agricultural development and ensure livelihood security, KAU provides skilled human resources and technologies tailored to Kerala's diverse agro-ecological zones. The university offers undergraduate to doctoral programs in Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Agricultural Engineering, and allied fields through its statewide network of colleges, research stations, and extension centers. Its research emphasizes system-based approaches, value addition, and resource-based innovations.

KAU – RAFTAAR Agri Business Incubator (KAU-RABI)

The RAFTAAR Agri Business Incubator (KAU-RABI), established at Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana – Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, aims to catalyze agri-innovation and entrepreneurship in Kerala. KAU-RABI supports aspiring agripreneurs in the state by providing mentoring, training, funding, and access to infrastructure and expert guidance. Through flagship programs like RAISE (Realising and Augmenting Innovations for startup Entrepreneurs) and PACE (Promotion of Agriculture through Commercialization and Entrepreneurship), KAU-RABI has trained 250 startups and funded 98 startups, the incubator nurtures value-added, technology-driven agri-enterprises focused on Kerala's unique agricultural strengths. KAU-RABI is building a vibrant agri-startup ecosystem that drives sustainable growth and empowers Kerala's next generation of agricultural entrepreneurs.

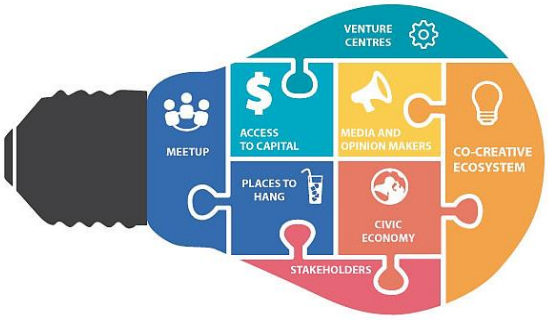
“Agri-Startup Stakeholders Connect - Fostering Collaboration & Partnerships”

About the Program

This program will help start-ups connect with all the relevant agricultural stakeholders on a single platform and bridge the information gap thus facilitating a seamless exchange of knowledge, resources and Partnership opportunities. It also aims to connect all dots spanning in entrepreneurship spectrum for providing start-ups centric solutions. This unique programme seeks to foster a vibrant community, enabling start-ups founders and agribusiness stakeholders to connect, share their experiences and collaborate in ways that drive progress. With an emphasis on fostering dialogues and facilitating learning, participants will have the opportunity to not only showcase their products but also to listen to fellow founders' stories.

Aim

This program aims to connect all dots spanning in entrepreneurship spectrum for providing start-ups centric solutions.



Objectives

- **Connect in Single Platform**: Bring all agri-startup stakeholders together to enable seamless interaction, access, and engagement on one unified platform.
- **Build Networks**: Facilitate connections between agripreneurs, researchers, and industry stakeholders to strengthen the agricultural innovation ecosystem.
- **Promote Collaboration**: Encourage partnerships between academia and industry to address real-world challenges and explore new opportunities in agriculture.
- **Share Knowledge**: Provide a platform for exchanging insights, strategies, and technological advancements relevant to agricultural start-ups and innovations.
- **Bridge Information Gap**: Ensure timely and easy access to relevant information, policies, funding, and market trends to support informed decision-making.

Eligible Participants

- Agri-Startup and Aspiring Agriprenuers
- Entrepreneurs, Inventors and Innovators
- Incubation and Innovation Centres
- Startup Mentors, Service providers, and Consultants
- FBOs, FPOs, Agri-Business Firms, NGOs
- Banks & Venture Capitalists firms and Angel investors
- Research institutions, Educational Institutions
- Researchers, Students, Rural youth, Academicians
- Agricultural Development Administrators and Policy makers
- Central and State Government officials
- Other stakeholders associate with the Agri-Start-up Eco-System

Key Takeaways

- **New Partnerships**: Meet individuals who can potentially become business partners, clients, mentors or collaborators.
- **Learning**: Gain insights from Agri-Startup Stakeholders through Networking, Talks and Discussions.
- **Visibility**: Showcase your products and technology to a relevant audience, increasing your visibility within the local business community.
- **Connections**: Facilitating strategic links among agri-startups, investors, researchers, government bodies, and service providers to build a robust support network.
- **Consultation**: Offering expert guidance, mentorship, and advisory support to startups and stakeholders through structured sessions.

Program Highlights

Interactive Workshops

Hands-on sessions with industry experts and successful entrepreneurs.

Networking Opportunities

Dedicated time for participants to connect and discuss potential collaborations.

Product Exhibitions

Display of cutting-edge agricultural products and technologies, providing a platform for stat-ups to showcase their innovations.

Knowledge Sharing

Presentations and discussions on cutting-edge agricultural technologies and business models.

Impact

MANAGE has collaborated with eight universities across eight states, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Kerala involving a total of around 2,000 participants so far.

In the first phase, the program focused on states with limited resources, connectivity, and networks for start-ups, while in the second phase, it is covering the remaining states.

The program has facilitated valuable connections, inspired new partnerships, and provided actionable insights to participants, thereby strengthening the agricultural innovation ecosystem and fostering a collaborative environment for future growth.

MANAGE-KAU Agri-Startup Stakeholders Connect

Background

MANAGE proposed a collaboration with Kerala (KAU) Agricultural University, Thrissur to conduct the eighth edition of the Agri-Startup Stakeholders Connect program in Kerala. Following the acceptance from the Director of Extension, KAU, the program was scheduled to be conducted on 20th June, 2025 at Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Thrissur, with coordination from the KAU RAFTAAR Agribusiness Incubator.

The organising team for the program included, from MANAGE: Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), Ms. V. Usha Sree, Manager, and Ms. Jeena Paul, MANAGE-CIA Intern; and from KAU: Dr. Binoo P. Bonny, Director of Extension, Dr. K. P. Sudheer, Professor & Head, R-ABI, and Mr. Abhishek S., Business Manager, R-ABI.

The list of proposed stakeholders from the Kerala Agri-startup ecosystem was prepared, and invitation mails to participate in the program were sent to incubation centres, startups, agripreneurs, and agricultural & allied and technical colleges and institutes in Kerala. Also, the registration link for the program was circulated through MANAGE-CIA social media handles.

The schedule of the program was planned with sessions including the inaugural session, followed by three panel discussions, a pitching session and exhibition, and concluding with the valedictory session. The panel discussions included: the first panel on 'Collaborative Roots: Incubation Ecosystems in Kerala' involving heads of incubation centres in Kerala; the second panel on 'Agri-Startup Innovations: Advancing the Production Frontier' featuring Agri-startups working on agricultural production technologies; and the third panel on 'Agri-Startup Synergies: Reinventing Post-Production' involving Agri-startups working on post-production technologies.

A total of 590 participants registered for the program, including startups, students, faculty, and other professionals. Confirmation mails were sent to all the registered participants, and they were requested to join a WhatsApp group for further communication. Out of the startups that expressed interest in pitching and exhibition, after screening, 12 startups were shortlisted for the pitching session and 20 startups were shortlisted for the exhibition.

The program, conducted at the Central Auditorium, Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), was attended by 430 participants, including 21 dignitaries who graced the dais, 100 members representing different Agri-Startups across Kerala, 225 students from various colleges of KAU and other colleges in and around Thrissur, and 84 professionals including faculty, officials from state agriculture and industry departments, consultants, managers, engineers, and technicians.

Inaugural Session

Rapporteur: Dr. Giggin T., Assistant Professor & Course Coordinator (PhD Animal Science), KAU

Dr. Mani Chellappan, Dean, College of Agriculture, Vellanikkara, welcomed the gathering.

Dr. Binoo P. Bonny, Director of Extension, Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), did the presidential address. In her speech, she said that, historically, we never had a brand named "India" and we remained on the invisible side of the entrepreneurial scenario. We are now instrumental in nurturing them. As of 2025, India is the world's 3rd largest startup ecosystem. More than 1.5 lakh startups are registered in India, of which most of them are fintech, health tech and similar technology-based ones. Agri startups are very few, and most of them are also loaded with technologies. It is sad to know that no agri startups have reached unicorn status to date. The future of agriculture remains in the firm belief that any agribusiness venture should go beyond cultivation, and models should be developed to sustain agriculture and promote entrepreneurship. Kerala Agricultural University-Agri Business Incubator stands for that. It is a proud moment to say that out of the 6000+ entrepreneurs trained by this business incubator so far, 3000+ are women entrepreneurs. Agriculture 4.0 is bringing a paradigm shift in digitalising agriculture. The startup ecosystem should ideally nurture and support startup for their sustainable growth and performance.

Dr. B. Ashok IAS, Honourable Vice Chancellor of Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) and Agricultural Production Commissioner for the Government of Kerala, inaugurated the function in online mode. In his speech, he pointed out that there is a pressing need to redefine the role of the Agricultural University in such a way that the opportunity for entrepreneurship should be given to all students. He said that Kerala leads the startup incubation system in India, with one-third of them being agri-startups. 12-15 lakh farmers we know on a day-to-day basis

because of the unique farmer's ID programme. But, the potential of digitalising the data is still untapped. We need to know how digitalisation of agri-related data can be useful for primary producers, intermediaries and such stakeholders. Entrepreneurs at the micro level should be supported, and the micro entrepreneur ecosystem should be improved. We need Farmer Producer Organisations and startups in a better strategised way, and it should be a part of the MBA programme. Even though the idea is promising, its weakest element is the lack of sustainable revenue generation. So, in future, we may need to think about deregulating farming practices. We need to look out for startups with regional strategies while promoting tie-ups with institutions like IIMs. The possibility to reach out to the farmers with the tap of a fingertip should be utilised more and more.

The guests lit the traditional ceremonial lamp as part of inauguration.

Dr. Sriram Venkitaraman IAS, Director of Agriculture, Government of Kerala, was the guest of honour. In his address, he said that, agriculture in Kerala is way forward while the so called agrarian states are outdated. Things are there in the right direction, but there is an immediate need for a coalition between the stakeholders in agriculture. Things are changing in a foster way. The system in agriculture department is still in a traditional way and projects are not productive. When the agriculture is transforming rapidly, how fast we can change accordingly is depends upon how rapidly we understand and accept the change. There is a lot of resources at disposal. He urged the session to specifically address the agriculture department in a way to use this ecosystem for the benefit of farmers. Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) traditionally look forward for grants for their subsistence, but they should be taught to procure flexible credit from the market and about the functional barriers to access that. In the AI-ML enabled world, no startup may look at Kerala Agricultural University for technology as it is available over the internet in a cheaper price, they look forward for support for their business to grow.

Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE, Hyderabad, delivered keynote address. In his address, he pointed out that, we need to see the startups as the developmental portion for agriculture. In India, 1.79 lakh registered startups are there in which only 8000+ are from the agricultural field (agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries etc.). Incubation started in India, by MANAGE in 2016 and now, 100+ incubation centres are there. But, most of them are based in metros and cities and not belong to where actual agriculture is happening. Most of these startups didn't make much impact in the last 10 years and not much changes happened. Grant support from the government is there, but usually they come in instalments. Hence, the startups need to access other credits too and such credit agencies should be sensitised in this matter. Students are getting Rs. 4 lakh as startup support to start their own business while studying itself. And we need to encourage students to think in that way. Research on startups may be considered. There is lot of potential for rural youth and farmer innovators and Kerala Agricultural University should validate such innovations.

Dr. A. Sakeer Hussain, Registrar of Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), released two videos produced by Centre for e-learning, Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), about the startups by Agri Business Incubator. In his special address, he pointed out that graduates from agriculture and allied sectors are coming to neither primary agriculture nor secondary agriculture. There are lots of opportunities for graduate to start and own a business through Agri-Clinics and Agri Business Centre (AC-ABC) scheme where there is good amount of subsidy also. He said that startups should be the back bone of primary agriculture and support to startup is a collective responsibility of all the stakeholders involved.

Dr. Anith K.N., Director of Research, in his special address, reminded that, Kerala has changed from a primary producer state to consumer society. Now, we are a knowledge-based new society. Startups are mushrooming, but only few of them are surviving. This is because their products come out without much research with much expectations for fanciful outcomes. And that's why startups need research support for them to be creative, sustainable and making profit. As an example, he pointed out Kerala Agricultural University's bio-control agents. The

technologies of bio-control agents' production were developed well before the startup boom, some 15-20 years ago. So, startups can think about the ready-to-transfer technologies from Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) and there should be some room for research on the ABI system. Directorate of Research is ready to provide support to startups to improve their outcome. We are also thinking to make room for people's research or common man's research.

Dr. Sureshkumar P.K., Professor and member of executive committee of Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), felicitated the gathering. He said that the agriculture sector is facing different challenges and startups are coming up with solutions for these challenges. Kerala Startup Mission, Kerala Agricultural University's Agribusiness incubator and similar startup ecosystem enablers laid a good foundation. A majority of our startups are initiated by young entrepreneurs. In an international report in 2024, it was reported that, Kerala shown a startup growth of 256% in 2022-23. Kerala ranked in 4th position, in the availability of affordable young talents. Our startups are showing responsibility in addressing problems rather than chasing profits alone. But they cannot thrive in isolation. They need support, collaboration and exchange of ideas for growth and sustenance.

Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE handed over mementos to guests as a token of appreciation.

Dr. K.P. Sudheer, Professor & Head and PI of R-ABI of Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) offered vote of thanks.

PANEL DISCUSSION I:

Collaborative roots – Incubation ecosystems in Kerala

Rapporteur: Dr. Vithu Prabha, Asst. Professor, KCAEFT, Tavanur

Moderator: Dr. K.P. Sudheer, Professor and Principal Investigator of RAFTAAR, ABI

The panel discussion commenced with a brief introduction by the moderator, Dr. K.P. Sudheer, Professor and Principal Investigator of RAFTAAR, ABI. In his opening remarks, he highlighted Kerala's strong and evolving startup ecosystem, which is backed by a network of active incubation centres and the distinction of being the first Indian state to formulate a dedicated startup policy. Attended by over 400 participants including startup founders, faculty members, students, and representatives from FPOs and agribusiness enterprises, he acknowledged the presence of vibrant incubation centres across the state contributing to the production sector and technological fine-tuning, with the Kerala Agricultural University Agri Business Incubation Centre under the RAFTAAR scheme alone supporting nearly 245 agri-startups, in addition to another 100+ startups outside the R-ABI framework.

The session followed a two-round format: the first involving self-introductions by the panelists and the second comprising a Q&A segment with stakeholder participation. During the introductions, the panelists presented the role and scope of their respective incubation centers.

Panel members and their contributions:

Dr. Preethi M (TBI, NIT Calicut)

Dr. Preethi M., CEO of TBI, NIT Calicut, shared that their incubation model focuses on allied technologies rather than purely agriculture-based domains, with strong inputs from IT, mechanical engineering, and nanotechnology. Over 150 startups have been incubated, supported by well-developed lab infrastructure and interdisciplinary research. She highlighted the unique provision wherein faculty can serve as company directors, enabling smoother

Academic-industry collaboration. She also explained that their financial support is structured through schemes such as NIDHI (National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations) – PRAYAS (Promotion and Acceleration of Young and Aspiring technology entrepreneurs): a grant to develop idea to prototype (up to ₹10 lakhs) and additional loan schemes of ₹25 lakhs.

Dr. P. Nishy (BBD, CSIR – NIIST)

Dr. P. Nishy, Chief Scientist and Head of the Business and Biotechnology Division, CSIR–NIIST (National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology), Thiruvananthapuram, spoke about the institute's mandate to support agri-related research with a focus on spices, oils, cosmetics, nutraceuticals, and millet-based products. She mentioned several ready-to-transfer technologies and facilities including a millet pilot plant and waste valorization solutions. A unique feature highlighted was their artificial stomach facility, which supports research on vegan alternatives to dairy products like cheese and butter.

Mr. Tom Thomas (Kerala Startup Mission)

Mr. Tom Thomas, COO of Kerala Startup Mission, gave an overview of the startup support system from KSUM, highlighting a three-tier approach; nurturing ideas, enabling access to shared technological resources, and providing support for market access. He emphasized the importance of inter-institutional facility sharing to ensure optimal support to startups regardless of the incubator they are associated with.

Dr. Mohan C.O (ICAR-CIFT, Cochin)

Dr. Mohan C.O., Principal Scientist at ICAR-CIFT (Central Institute of Fisheries Technology), Cochin, spoke on the incubation ecosystem for fisheries and marine-based technologies. He explained their holistic support system encompassing the design of boats and gears, post-harvest utilization, and development of high-value fish products such as coated ready-to-eat (RTE) fish and high-pressure processed (HPP) seafood. He noted a growing consumer demand for nutrition-oriented products and mentioned the potential of using the Food Innovation Centre (FIC) scheme for early-stage funding.

Dr. Sajesh V.K (ICAR-IISR, Kozhikode)

Dr. Sajesh V.K., Senior Scientist at the Business Planning and Development Unit of ICAR-IISR (Indian Institute of Spices Research), Kozhikode, discussed incubation efforts in the spice sector with a focus on value addition. Facilities are available for unit operations (grading), spice powder blending, oil and oleoresin extraction. He showcased successful product developments like spice-infused jaggery and 'Golden Milk' formulated for Milma. Financial limitations for sustained startup funding were cited as a key concern.

Mr. Mittu Tigi (AIC-IIIT Kottayam)

Mr. Mittu Tigi, CEO of AIC–IIIT (Indian Institute of Information Technology), Kottayam, elaborated on the role of Atal Innovation Mission, Atal Tinkering Labs, and the two major startup initiatives of the centre - 'inLaunch' and 'inBuilt'. Their thematic focus lies in AI and IoT, and the centre offers integrated support, including investment facilitation, marketing, technology handholding, and community-based networking. He highlighted how their model aims to empower Indian startups through policy support and ecosystem convergence.

Q&A segment

The second round of the discussion opened with stakeholder interactions. Questions were raised by participants on topics such as scale-up strategies for existing ventures, eligibility of One Person Companies (OPCs) for grants, challenges in technology transfer for oil and spice processing, and the viability of trout culture in Kerala. Other queries included incubation support for arrowroot processing (raised by an FPO), the utilization of NIDHI PRAYAS scheme to convert student ideas to prototypes, and the need for low-cost poultry waste management technologies suitable for small-scale operations. Panelists responded with institutional linkages, guidance, and examples of existing schemes available to address these needs.

The session concluded with closing remarks from Dr. K.P. Sudheer, who thanked the panelists and audience. He made a concluding appeal to all incubation centres to consider offering differentiated tariff structures for startups, especially early-stage ventures, to distinguish them from industrial players and support innovation in a more inclusive and accessible manner.

PANEL DISCUSSION II:

Agri–startup innovations: advancing the production frontier

Rapporteur: Ms. Aswathi K.K, Assistant Professor, Communication Centre, Mannuthy

Moderator: Dr. Berin Pathrose, Director of Planning, Kerala Agricultural University (KAU)

The second panel discussion of the Agri–Startup Stakeholders Connect event focused on the theme *"Innovations by Agri–Startups in Advancing the Production Frontier."* Dr. Berin Pathrose, Director of Planning, Kerala Agricultural University (Moderator), started the session by extending a warm welcome to the panelists and briefly introducing each of them. This panel brought together a vibrant mix of agri-entrepreneurs and key stakeholders from the startup ecosystem. The discussion focused on how agri–startups are playing a transformative role in boosting agricultural productivity, enhancing operational efficiency, and promoting sustainable practices. The insights and experiences shared during the session highlighted the critical contributions of innovation-led startups in shaping the future of Indian agriculture.

Panel members and their contributions:

Mr. Sebin Antony (NABARD)

Mr. Sebin Antony, NABARD District General Manager, Thrissur introduced various NABARD schemes designed to support the startup ecosystem in agriculture. He highlighted the Farmer Sector Promotional Fund, which provides grants up to ₹40 lakhs for innovative and viable ideas. He also discussed the equity financing scheme, which caters primarily to established startups through a thorough appraisal process. His address emphasized NABARD's commitment to nurturing rural entrepreneurship through financial and technical support.

Mr. Manu Joseph (Inker Robotics)

Mr. Manu Joseph, representing Inker Robotics, shared valuable insights into the startup's innovative contributions to the agricultural sector. He began by introducing Inker Robotics as

a venture founded by a group of technocrats, with a strong focus on emerging technologies such as robotics, artificial intelligence (AI), and Internet of Things (IoT). Their overarching mission, as Mr. Manu Joseph highlighted is to nurture the next generation of innovators while simultaneously addressing the needs of critical sectors like agriculture by delivering scalable and technology-driven solutions.

He also elaborated on some of their key innovations that are poised to transform agriculture:

1. **Robotic System for Kitchen Gardening** – This innovation involves an automated system designed to assist in small-scale agricultural practices, particularly kitchen gardening. It significantly enhances efficiency in resource management and supports urban farming initiatives.
2. **AI-Based Platform for Supply Chain Management** – He further introduced a digital platform powered by artificial intelligence, aimed at streamlining logistics.

Mr. Devan Chandrasekharan (Fuselage Innovations Pvt. Ltd.)

Mr. Devan Chandrasekharan, shared the inspiring journey of *Fuselage Innovations*, a startup that originated from a B.Tech project and evolved into a full-fledged enterprise. The company focuses on leveraging drone technology for agricultural purposes, with a particular emphasis on aerial spraying in paddy cultivation. He highlighted the critical role of institutional support in their growth trajectory. Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) played a key role in the initial development phase, offering technical guidance and validation. Financial backing from NABARD and the Kerala Startup Mission further enabled the company to scale its operations.

Currently, Fuselage Innovations caters to the needs of over 2,500 farmers, providing efficient and cost-effective drone-based spraying solutions. Mr. Devan's presentation underscored the potential of academic innovations to be successfully commercialized when supported by the right ecosystem of mentorship, funding, and technical collaboration.

Mr. Anoop K.C. (Blackfly Technologies Pvt. Ltd.)

Mr. Anoop, founder of Blackfly Technologies, presented an insightful session on the innovative "waste-to-wealth" model pioneered by his startup. The concept was born out of a personal initiative to manage organic waste generated on his farm. Over time, this led to the development of a scalable business solution through bioconversion technology using **Black Soldier Fly (BSF) larvae.** The enterprise has received significant support from research institutions including **Kerala Agricultural University** (KAU) and **National Institute of Technology (NIT), Calicut.** This collaboration underscores the vital role of academic and research institutions in nurturing innovation-driven startups. Mr. Anoop also candidly shared the various **challenges encountered** during the initial stages of the enterprise. Despite these obstacles, Blackfly Technologies has emerged as a **pioneering venture** in the field of sustainable waste management. The presentation served as a compelling example of how novel ideas, when supported by research and institutional collaboration, can lead to impactful entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector.

Mr. Adam shamsudeen (Adam Mushrooms Pvt. Ltd.)

Mr. Adam presented the innovative journey of *Adam Mushrooms Pvt. Ltd.*, focusing on their flagship product "Mushpellet" – a novel, user-friendly solution for mushroom cultivation. He elaborated on how the idea evolved into a scalable product, now reaching nearly 3,000 consumers. This innovation simplifies the cultivation process, making mushroom farming more accessible to individuals and small-scale growers. In addition to Mushpellet, Mr. Adam highlighted the company's work on developing specially designed mushroom containers. The presentation underscored the importance of user-centric design and sustainability in agri-innovation, exemplifying how startups can bridge the gap between modern technology and traditional farming practices.

Mr. Charles Vijay Varghese (NAVA Designs & Innovations Pvt. Ltd.)

Mr. Charles, founder of NAVA Designs & Innovations Pvt. Ltd., shared the vision behind his startup, which aims to modernize traditional coconut tapping practices using sustainable technologies. He introduced **"SAPER",** a patented coconut sap tapping device designed to reduce tree climbing and enable centralized, contamination-free sap collection. SAPER has received **patents in multiple countries,** reflecting its innovation and global relevance. Mr. Charles credited the **Coconut Development Board, NABARD, Kerala Agricultural University** (KAU)**, Kerala Startup Mission,** and **BIRAC** for their instrumental support in the development and deployment of the device. SAPER stands as a model for sustainable, technology-driven innovation in the coconut farming sector.

Mr. Rijish Rajan (Simplify Agri Pvt. Ltd.)

Mr. Rijish Rajan highlighted the vision and impact of **Simplify Agri Pvt. Ltd.**, a technology-driven enterprise committed to transforming agriculture through digital solutions. He emphasized that the platform serves as a vital bridge connecting farmers with banks, insurance providers, and microfinance institutions, thereby promoting financial inclusion in rural communities. He showcased key tools developed by the firm, including **bookkeeping and labour aggregation apps.** He explained that these innovations enable real-time data collection, streamline farm management, and provide customized credit and insurance solutions.

Mr. Subeesh S. (Cofba Networks LLP)

Mr. Subeesh, representing *Cofba Networks LLP*, shared insights into the organization's contributions to strengthening the digital backbone of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in Kerala. Mr. Subeesh emphasized Cofba's focus on providing digital infrastructure, communication tools, and backend solutions tailored to the operational needs of FPOs. Their interventions aim to enhance coordination, transparency, and efficiency within these farmer collectives, thereby fostering better market access and management capabilities. Through their tech-driven approach, Cofba Networks is contributing to a more connected and resilient agricultural ecosystem in the state.

Open forum and concluding remarks

After the panelists shared their experiences, the discussion was followed by a Q & A session with the participants. Budding entrepreneurs and startup aspirants posed queries about challenges faced during the early stages of their ventures. Panelists responded with practical advice, highlighting the importance of resilience, innovation, and institutional support.

Dr. Berin Pathrose, Director (Planning), KAU, concluded the session with a vote of thanks, appreciating the panelists, participants, and organizers for contributing to an engaging and inspiring discussion. The session provided a valuable platform for knowledge sharing and collaborative growth in the Agri-startup ecosystem.

PANEL DISCUSSION III:

Agri-startup synergies: reinventing post-production

Rapporteur: Dr. Krishna Kumar, Asst. Professor, CoA, Vellanikkara, KAU

Moderator: Dr. E.G Ranjitkumar, Dean, CCBM & Director MBA-ABM, KAU

The third panel discussion focused on 'agri-startup synergies: reinventing post-production'. The session started with a brief introduction by the moderator, Dr. E.G Ranjitkumar, Dean, CCBM & Director MBA-ABM, KAU about the topic and panellists.

Ms. Vidhya K.S. (Svojus Farms)

- **Company:** Heritaste LLP
- **Activity**: She owns a manufacturing unit for processed food production.
- **Major Products**: Jackfruit products, multi-millet powders
- **Market strategy:** B2C
- **Actions**: Her venture also emphasize on millet awareness to public.
- **Innovativeness**: Traceability of product in every packet is there. A QR code is provided in every packet, where customers can trace back to the area where it is cultivated.
- **Concern:** Out of all, only 2% of people ever mind scanning the QR code in packet.
- **Challenges:** Expansion of the product on a wider scale.

Ms. Vineetha A.K. (Fabric Care)

- **Company:** Bio-Aryavedic Naturals Pvt. Ltd.
- **Activity**: She produces and market a textile fabric conditioner.
- **Major Products**: Fabric conditioner that works in three ways a. Stiffener, b. Conditioner and 3. Antimicrobial. The product is designed in such a way that the consumer regularly keeps purchasing the same. The product can be sprayed directly on the fabric.

- **Market strategy:** B2C and to some extent B2B.
- **Actions**: Cassava is procured directly from the farmers, providing assured and stable income.
- **Innovativeness**: The product is a biopolymer based on cassava. The triple action formula is unique. The product also maintains its color.
- **Concern**: Not mentioned.
- **Challenges**: B2C model is a major constraint.

Ms. Ambika Somasundaran (Dry Mix)

- **Company:** Kariat Dry Foods
- **Activity**: Her venture sells a total of 56 products spanning special puttu powders, moringa products, etc. Also she won the Millet Café Project from Thrissur.
- **Major Products**: Special puttu powders, moringa leaf powder, moringa powder capsules.
- **Market strategy:** B2C
- **Actions**: Employs 14 personnel in her venture. About to launch their new brands at Dubai.
- **Innovativeness**: She produces value added products from processing waste.
- **Concern**: Not mentioned.
- **Challenges**: Wider acceptance of product.

Mr. Ramesh Menon (Nutriroot)

- **Company:** Brahma Indic Nutriments Pvt. Ltd.
- **Activity**: His venture primarily focuses on nutraceuticals and healthy foods. They are an upgraded branch of pharmaceuticals company turned nutraceuticals.
- **Major Products**: Gluten-free wheat powder, sprouted millets, gummies with fruit extracts.
- **Market strategy:** B2C and B2B
- **Actions**: Able to provide more income to farmers.
- **Innovativeness**: The products are made to be gluten-free.
- **Concern**: None because the consumers are already linked with their pharma company.
- **Challenges**: He stressed that a sustainable business needs a solid model with a proper ecosystem, value proposition, and value chain. Being socially responsible is important but not enough on its own.

Mr. Vinay Balakrishnan (Thooshan)

- **Company:** VIR Naturals Pvt. Ltd.
- **Activity**: He left his job in 2020 and opened the business of making replacement options to single use plastics.
- **Major Products**: Rice husk plate, wheat bran plate, rice grain powder straw, starch-fork, spoon, knife and cup.
- **Market strategy:** B2G, B2B, B2C.
- **Actions**: He received approaches from Gulf countries to utilize date seeds, which he innovatively converted into plates. Similarly, the Swiss Government approached him

to repurpose Christmas trees after December, and he successfully transformed them into plates.

- **Innovativeness**: Ecofriendly degradable replacements for single use plastics.
- **Concern**: The pesticide usage in rice makes its straw unable to be used as an alternative to plastics.
- **Challenges**: He wanted to make a scale-down version of his machinery for being installed in any rural areas. Affordable pricing of the product.

TECHNICAL SESSION

Rapporteur: Er. Abhishek S, Assistant Professor, KCAEFT, Tavanur

The Agri Startup Stakeholder Connect Conclave served as a pivotal gathering, uniting innovative agri-entrepreneurs, discerning investors, and key stakeholders within the agriculture and food technology sectors. The primary objective of this event was to facilitate a dynamic platform for showcasing groundbreaking solutions, fostering collaboration, and accelerating the growth of the agri-tech ecosystem. A central highlight of the conclave was a meticulously curated exhibition alongside an engaging pitching session, both designed to spotlight the visionary founders behind these transformative agricultural and food tech ventures.

Startup pitching highlights

The pitching session provided an invaluable opportunity for selected founders to articulate their startup journeys, present their core products, and elaborate on their strategic visions. This segment was characterized by insightful presentations and a palpable energy, as entrepreneurs shared their passion and potential impact.

Archana Devi Vijayaraman, founder of **Prahana Products Private Limited**, Chennai, pitched her innovative and sustainable model aimed at transforming the Indian cacao sector. She addressed key challenges such as low yields, lack of fine-flavoured cacao, limited farmer support, and the absence of traceability. Through her Smart Cacao Farm Model, she integrates smart sensors for real-time monitoring, micro-fermentation stations, farmer training programs,

and blockchain-based traceability from pod to bar. Her product line features organic, plant-based, and chemical-free chocolates made with locally sourced ingredients and natural sweeteners. With over 500 customers, a growing D2C and B2B presence, and recognition through schemes like TANSEED, PMFME, and CITI IIT Kanpur, she is creating significant impact at both the farm and market levels, championing traceability, quality, and farmer empowerment in the cacao value chain.

Sooraj Krishna of **NeuBiom Labs Pvt. Ltd.**, based in Kerala, captivated the audience with his deep dive into AgriTech, specifically focusing on AI for agriculture. He presented a suite of innovative products including AgroNeuBot, an AI chatbot designed to empower farmers with immediate information; AgroNeuGraph, a comprehensive agricultural knowledge graph; and Canopy AI, a specialized crop intelligence tool for coffee farmers. Furthermore, he highlighted 17AD Coffee, a brand offering traceable, premium Indian coffee. His overarching focus is on leveraging AI-driven, human-centric tools to enable data-driven decision-making and efficient farm management for farmers, significantly enhancing productivity and sustainability.

Joby Mattathil Johnson from **AbrinAldrich Agronic Products Pvt. Ltd.**, located in Ernakulam, Kerala, showcased his pioneering work in functional food, wellness, and nutraceuticals. His presentation centered on their flagship product, Probiotic Natural Fermented Turmeric (FTP), and other value-added spice products. Joby elaborated on how their innovative fermentation process enhances the bioavailability and palatability of turmeric, making it more effective and consumer-friendly. His enterprise is dedicated to developing organic, fermented products that not only contribute to consumer wellness but also provide significant support to farmer incomes by creating higher-value agricultural commodities.

Sariga T S, representing **Foodyko Innovations and Research Pvt. Ltd.**, presented a compelling case for her startup's role in streamlining the agri-value chain, farmer empowerment, and developing a robust food platform. The core of her presentation was the

Foodyko platform itself, designed to directly connect farmers' value-added products with consumers. With over 42 diverse products already listed, the platform actively empowers farmers by bridging critical market gaps for their processed and value-added agri-products. Sariga's vision is deeply rooted in promoting healthy, locally sourced food, thereby benefiting both producers and consumers while enhancing rural livelihoods.

The pitching session concluded with several key takeaways: it unequivocally demonstrated the strong innovative capabilities prevalent in the agri-tech sector, particularly in areas like AI, nutraceuticals, and direct farmer-to-market linkages. Founders effectively conveyed compelling real-world impact stories, underscoring the tangible benefits their solutions bring. Moreover, the interactive nature of the session fostered invaluable collaborations and provided founders with constructive feedback from a diverse group of stakeholders, which is crucial for refining their strategies and scaling operations.

Startup exhibition highlights

Complementing the pitching session, the exhibition area buzzed with activity, providing a vibrant showcase for a wide array of cutting-edge agricultural and food technology innovations. This space allowed founders to display their products, engage directly with attendees, and demonstrate their solutions in a more interactive setting.

Fuselage Innovations Pvt. Ltd., based in Kochi, Kerala, presented a fascinating display of cutting-edge UAV (drone) solutions. Their exhibit highlighted how these drones are designed for multi-sector impact, with a particular emphasis on sustainable innovation within agriculture, extending their utility beyond traditional farming applications to various other industries. **Devan Chandrasekharan** passionately explained the precision and efficiency gains offered by their drone technology, demonstrating their potential to revolutionize modern agricultural practices, from crop monitoring to targeted spraying, significantly reducing resource waste.

Adam Mushrooms Pvt. Ltd., in Kerala, drew considerable attention with their popular 'Grow the Funguy' mushroom kits and Mushpellets. These offerings represent easy-to-use DIY mushroom cultivation solutions, alongside a range of organic mushroom products. **Adam Shamsudeen** articulated how their products are revolutionizing home and commercial mushroom farming, making it accessible and sustainable for individuals and businesses alike. His company's focus on innovative and user-friendly cultivation methods aims to democratize mushroom farming and promote healthy eating.

NAVA Designs & Innovation Pvt. Ltd., a Kochi, Kerala-based deep-tech company, showcased remarkable advancements in agri-automation. A focal point of their demonstration was an innovative coconut sap harvesting robot, which underscored their profound expertise in robotics and the development of special-purpose agri-machinery. **Charles** highlighted how their automated solutions address labor challenges and enhance efficiency in traditional agricultural practices, presenting a glimpse into the future of precision farming and specialized crop management.

VIR Naturals Pvt. Ltd., based in Ernakulam, Kerala, presented an array of eco-friendly cutlery. Their products, crafted from bio-based materials, offered compelling sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics, drawing significant interest from environmentally conscious attendees. **Vinaykumar** emphasized the importance of adopting biodegradable solutions in daily life, demonstrating his company's commitment to reducing ecological footprints and promoting a greener future for the food service industry.

Bio-Aryavedic Naturals Pvt. Ltd., from Ernakulam, Kerala, showcased a unique line of innovative, eco-friendly fabric care products. Their presentation highlighted how these products seamlessly blend traditional Indian science, particularly Ayurvedic principles, with modern nanotechnology. **Vineetha A K**'s commitment to creating effective yet gentle solutions for fabric care resonated with attendees seeking sustainable and health-conscious alternatives for household products, demonstrating a harmonious fusion of ancient wisdom and contemporary innovation.

Svojas Foods Pvt. Ltd. offered a diverse range of millet-based breakfast segment products, emphasizing nutritional benefits and convenience. Their display featured various wholesome options designed to cater to modern dietary needs, showcasing how traditional ingredients can be transformed into appealing and health-conscious food solutions for today's consumers. The company was represented by **Vidya**.

Millet Factory and Farms India Pvt. Ltd., focused on the burgeoning market for millet-based snacks and grains. Their exhibit underscored the nutritional superiority and health benefits of millets, offering tasty and convenient options that appeal to health-conscious consumers. **Sofia Basheer** passionately explained how their products contribute to dietary diversification and promote the cultivation of climate-resilient crops.

Madambukattil Food Products Pvt. Ltd., highlighted their authentic traditional Kerala food items. Their booth offered a taste of regional culinary heritage, emphasizing the unique flavors and cultural significance of their products. **Praveed M.R.**'s commitment to preserving traditional recipes while ensuring high-quality production was evident. He also showcased non-chemical preservative added beverages with a longer shelf life, demonstrating innovation in traditional food preservation methods.

Livingroots Agro Research, represented by **Abdul Razak**, showcased a comprehensive range of organic farming solutions. His exhibit provided insights into sustainable agricultural practices, offering products and methodologies aimed at enhancing soil health, promoting biodiversity, and ensuring chemical-free food production. Abdul Razak's focus on ecological balance and natural farming methods resonated strongly with attendees interested in environmentally friendly agriculture.

Aero Academy Pvt. Ltd., dedicated their exhibit to drone training and agri-tech education. Their presence highlighted the crucial role of skilled personnel in adopting new agricultural technologies. **Lalitha Modha** emphasized the importance of proper training for the effective and safe operation of drones in agricultural settings, thereby facilitating the broader adoption of agri-tech solutions across the sector.

The exhibition also featured a wide array of other notable participants, each contributing to the diverse tapestry of agri-innovation.

BlackFly Technologies Pvt. Ltd., represented by **Anoop K.C**, showcased advanced agricultural technologies aimed at optimizing farm operations. Their solutions likely include tools for data analytics or precision farming, helping farmers make informed decisions. These innovations are designed to increase efficiency and productivity in the agricultural sector through the intelligent application of technology.

Kariat Dry Foods, represented by **Ambika Somasunderan**, presented a variety of millet and moringa based products. She highlighted innovative processing techniques that preserve essential nutrients and significantly extend the shelf life of these healthy food items. Her company provides convenient and nutritious options, actively contributing to the reduction of food waste.

Thattekkad Agro Farmers Producer Company showcased their impactful efforts in empowering local farmers. They demonstrated how their collaborative model enables farmers to collectively market their produce and value-added products, helping them achieve better market access and secure fairer prices for their hard work.

Mitera Foods, represented by **Sasna K**, displayed a range of healthy and innovative food products. Her focus was on natural ingredients and promoting consumer well-being, aiming to offer nutritious and delicious alternatives for everyday consumption that align with a health-conscious lifestyle.

SPICON BIO, represented by **Rajani Rajan**, featured bio-based agricultural inputs and solutions. These products are designed to promote sustainable farming practices by enhancing crop health and soil fertility using natural, environmentally friendly methods, thereby reducing reliance on chemical alternatives.

Kanthivardhini Natural Skincare, represented by **Rajeev Kumar Sukumaran**, showcased skincare products crafted from natural agricultural ingredients. His exhibit emphasized the thoughtful use of traditional knowledge and local natural resources to create effective and gentle products for beauty and wellness.

Sera Coffee, represented by **Jiju J Jacob**, presented a selection of specialty coffee products. He highlighted unique blends and committed to sustainable sourcing practices, striving to offer premium coffee experiences while ensuring ethical support for coffee growers.

TMJ Foods India Pvt. Ltd., represented by **Thankachan**, brought a rich selection of mushroom-based products, including 'Coonvita' for vitamin D. His display emphasized authentic flavors and the use of high-quality ingredients, aiming to bring nutritious and innovative mushroom products to a wider audience.

Nutrigenous Food Tech Pvt. Ltd., represented by **Bindhu**, exhibited nutrient-dense food solutions developed through advanced food technology. Her products are designed to comprehensively address various nutritional needs and encourage healthier dietary habits among consumers.

Transal Food Products, represented by **Ann Mathew**, displayed a range of millet-based muesli products. Her presentation emphasized the convenience and quality of these healthy breakfast options, providing consumers with nutritious and easy-to-prepare food items perfect for busy lifestyles.

The entire exhibition floor buzzed with vibrant networking and extensive knowledge sharing, as each founder enthusiastically conveyed the value and vision behind their products, collectively painting a picture of a more sustainable and prosperous agri-future. The Agri Startup Stakeholder Connect Conclave, through its meticulously organized pitching sessions and dynamic exhibition, successfully created a conducive environment for synergy and growth within the agricultural sector.


Choice of smart People
Sera Coffee
17. Sera Coffee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LADIES


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GAC FRUITS
FRUITS OF HEAVEN
GAC FRUIT MIX FRUIT JUICE
GAC FRUIT POWDER


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GAC FRUITS
FRUITS OF HEAVEN
GAC FRUIT MIX FRUIT JUICE
GAC FRUIT
GAC FRUIT POWDER


ragi
sprouted ragi
makhana poha & nuts
kamarakaya powder
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FOR THE
TO THE
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BIODEGRADABLE TABLEWARE AND
EDIBLE STRAWS FROM AGRI-WASTE.
5. VR Naturals Pvt. Ltd.


3. Adam Mushrooms Pvt. Ltd.


GROW THE
FUNGUY
MUSHROOM GROW KIT
LOVE ME AND
WATCH ME GROW
JUST SCRAP AND GROW


ARYAVEDIC
albedon


MENU
MENU


9. Millet factory and farms
india pvt ltd


THOOSHAN
DRY MIX
GREEN ROOMS
NO SMOKING
GENTS
TOILETS

VALEDICTORY SESSION

Rapporteur: Dr. E.B. Gilsha Bai, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Agril Engg, CoA, Vellanikkara

The valedictory session of the programme, presided by the Director of Extension, KAU. **Dr. K.P. Sudheer**, Prof. & PI of RABI extended a warm welcome to all the dignitaries and participants. The guest of honour for the session was Dr. Jiju P. Alex, Member of the State Planning Board. Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Ag. Extension), MANAGE, delivered the valedictory address. Smt. Sheeba S., General Manager, DIC, Thrissur, and Sri. Sujith, ADA, marketing from the State Agricultural Department, delivered special addresses during the session.

Dr. Binoo P. Bonny, Director of Extension, KAU, highlighted the transformative changes occurring in the agriculture sector, driven by advancements in Artificial Intelligence, in her presidential address. She emphasized the key role of start-ups in this transition and noted that initiatives like the 'Agri Start-up Stakeholders Connect' can significantly uplift the status of agri-startups and contribute meaningfully to the development of the farming community.

Dr. Jiju P. Alex acknowledged the profound activities of KAU RAFTAAR Agri Business Incubator in the field of entrepreneurship during the last five years. He emphasized the contribution of RABI in nurturing start-ups with support from the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). He also mentioned the improved entrepreneurship-friendly status of the state. Around 18% of the total entrepreneurship that started during the last 3 years within the state are agri-entrepreneurships. "Programmes like this are instrumental in shaping the future of these enterprises," he remarked.

Delivering the valedictory address, **Dr. Saravanan Raj** stated that the primary aim of the programme was to bring all stakeholders together, facilitating mutual support and access to government schemes. A large number of students also got inspiration to start new innovations from this programme. He expressed hope that MANAGE and KAU would continue organizing such programmes, which would provide significant support to emerging start-ups.

Ms. Sheeba S., General Manager, DIC, Thrissur elaborated on the support extended by the Industries Department to start-ups and entrepreneurs during her special address. She well described the priority sectors in the industrial policy of the state and the schemes for research and development works.

During the special address, **Mr. Sujith**, ADA, detailed the assistance offered by the State Agricultural Department to agri-startups, particularly in branding and marketing their products.

Ms. Jeena Paul, Programme Coordinator, MANAGE, delivered the vote of thanks.

LIST OF THE STARTUPS PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM

Sl. No.	Startup	Founder	Location	Focus Area
1.	Abrin Aldrich Agronic Products Pvt Ltd	Joby Mattathil Johnson	Ernakulam	Deep-tech agri-biotech startup specializing in the development of clean-label, fermented functional foods and nutraceuticals.
2.	Adam Mushrooms Pvt Ltd	Adam Shamsudeen	Thrissur	Mushroom GrowTheFunguy offer MushPellets - a clean, eco-friendly, ready-to-use substrate made from rubberwood sawdust and nutritional additives.
3.	AGES (Agriculture and Ecosystem Management Group)	Cherian Mathew	Trivandrum	Nutmeg pickles, squash. Experiments are underway to create new products by using nutmeg.
4.	Agri Man Enterprises LLP	Muhammed Shaheersha S	Thrissur	Value addition in microgreen.
5.	Agrinetvarth	Suresh Kuruppath	Thrissur	Paddy sector.
6.	Anandprabha Agro LLP	Sarmila T	Kozhikode	A science-driven agri-startup focused on high-quality mushroom spawn production.
7.	Bana Aagro Foods	Saidas V	Kozhikode	Floriculture and atmospheric control farming.
8.	Bio-Aryavedic Naturals Pvt Ltd	Vineetha A K	Cochin	Developed Bio-Polymer from cassava which can be used as sizing and finishing agent for textile manufacturing. This product also can be used as Fabric Stiffner & Conditioner spray with long-lasting antimicrobial agent.
9.	Blackfly Technologies Pvt Ltd	Anoop K C	Kozhikode	Organic fertilizer.
10.	Brahma Indic Nutriments Pvt Ltd	Ramesh Menon	Thrissur	Nutraceuticals and healthy foods; Gluten-free wheat powder, sprouted millets, gummies with fruit extracts.
11.	COFBA Networks LLP	Subeesh S	Trivandrum	ConnectOne is an integrated agri-tech platform that

				streamlines collaboration across the agricultural value chain.
12.	Eatery Malabarikas LLP	Brijith Krishna	Kannur	Cashew Sprout Manufacturing and its value added products through retorting technology.
13.	Eat N Tunes	Sidha Saji	Thrissur	Eatntunes is a health-centric food brand offering wholesome, clean-label snacks and mixes—ranging from energy bars and millet cookies to vegan brownies and laddoos.
14.	Ecoweedix	Vaishnavi N	Angamaly	Ecoweedix is a natural weed killer made from plant-based ingredients, including safe acids, alkalis, and phyto-chemicals.
15.	Elements Nature Life	Rigesh C S	Thrissur	Manufacturer millet bb added food product.
16.	Emily Orchards & AI Technologies	Padmaraju Parappurath	Wayanad	AI based multipurpose harvesting machine.
17.	Eshal Agro Value Pvt Ltd	Jisha Rajan	Thrissur	Trades and services.
18.	Finpro Technologies	Arjun Bhaskaran	Kozhikode	Crop Monitoring through IoT.
19.	Foodyko Innovations and Research Pvt Ltd	Sariga T S	Kottayam	Foodyko is a high-end web app technology with AI-driven automation, enabling farmers and manufacturers to start selling their products in seconds.
20.	Fuselage Innovations Pvt Ltd	Devan Chandra seskharan	Kochi	Leveraging drone technology for agricultural purposes, with a particular emphasis on aerial spraying in paddy cultivation.
21.	Global I Can Agro Solutions LLP	Sujan C K	Thrissur	Focus on agriculture and irrigation related products.
22.	God's Own Greens	Bibin T G	Thrissur	Focuses on growing and processing microgreens-nutrient-rich young plants. Developing products like microgreens powder and health mixes that are easy to use and packed with natural nutrition.
23.	Growmaxx Bioplants	Soorya K U	Thrissur	Plant tissue culture laboratory.
24.	Heritaste LLP	Vidhya Ks	Ernakulam	Food processing unit (millet base and plant protein).

25.	Indocert Global Services Pvt Ltd	Mathew Sebastian	Aluva	BiomeSeer is INDOCERT Global Services' flagship soil microbiome testing service that uses advanced DNA sequencing (Oxford Nanopore) to analyze microbial communities in soil.
26.	Inker Robotics	Manu Joseph	Thrissur	INKER offers advanced solutions, builds partnerships, and delivers an exceptional customer experience. We focus on key technologies like Robotics, AI, Machine Learning, 3D Printing, IoT, Blockchain, and Application Development.
27.	Issa Dlights	Akhil	Angamaly	Yogurt production.
28.	Jaidev Associates	Jaya P	Alappuzha	Dehydrated fruits and veggies.
29.	Kanthivardhini Natural Skincare Products	Rajeev Kumar Sukumaran	Alappuzha	Manufacturer of natural skin care products from beeswax and honey.
30.	Kariat Dry Foods	Ambika Somasundaran	Thrissur	Products like moringa and moringa base products.
31.	Kix Beverage	Benoy Varghese	Angamaly	Soft drinks.
32.	Kreupa Agro Ventures	Jacky Joy	Ernakulam	Agro food products.
33.	Let's Hope	Anupama	Ernakulam	Ball grape juice, fruits custard and ready toeat millet products.
34.	Livingroots Agro Research	Abdul Razak C	Kozhikode	Agri inputs.
35.	Longlast Labs Innovative Solutions Pvt Ltd	Shinzya Ismail	Thrissur	Hitech agriculture solutions.
36.	Madambukattil Food Products Pvt Ltd	Praveed. M.R	Aluva	Thripthi- Chemical-Free, Shelf-Stable Natural Beverages.
37.	Manna Food Supplements	Madhu soodanan	Nilambur	Health drink.
38.	Micah Ecofresh	Saji Mathew	Thrissur	Integrated Oil and Value added products.
39.	Millet Factory and Farms India Pvt Ltd	Sofia Basheer	Attapadi	Value added products from millet. Ready to eat and Ready to cook food.
40.	Mitera Foods	Sasna K	Manjeri	Healthy food products, Healthy mixes, baby foods.
41.	Modha Aero Academy Pvt Ltd	Lalitha	Thrissur	Drone Training and drones.

42.	Nava Design & Innovation Pvt Ltd	Charles Vijay Varghese	Thrissur	Coconut sap tapping robot.
43.	NeuBiom Labs	Sooraj K Babu	Wayanad	Canopy AI is a precision farming platform that empowers coffee growers with geotagged plantation tracking, AI-powered weather advisories, and real-time crop insights to optimize yield and sustainability.
44.	Nouka Enterprises	Yasin Aslam	Kochi	Frozen Fruit pulp.
45.	Nutri Jenius Food Technology Pvt Ltd	Omanakuttan	Kollam	Texture refined millet products.
46.	Nychera	Sanjay Sabu	Thrissur	App for logistics and inventory management.
47.	Orisys	Akash S R	Kazhakuttam	AI driven IoT product for hydrophonics and agriculture,including software for easy to handing agriculture.
48.	Pluwtox	Siddiq Sajeer	Alappuzha	Pluwtox is an eco-friendly brand that offers biodegradable bamboo toothbrushes as a sustainable alternative to plastic.
49.	Prahana Products Private Limited	Archana Vijayaraman	Chennai	Indian cacao to the global center stage with technology, transparency and traceability.
50.	Profud LLP	Bibu Augustine	Kollam	Proteins and greens - procurement of meat and fish, processing with scientific methods and delivered with quality, safety and hygiene.
51.	Rasdin Healthcare Innovations LLP	Dinesh Pappan D	Thrissur	Controlled environmental farming.
52.	Rice Fi Technologies	Alna Krishna	Angamaly	AMYLOBOOSTER - Increases its natural starch content, making the rice healthier, better in texture, more attractive in color, and longer-lasting.
53.	Saima Agrotech	Joseph Simon	Pathanamthitta	Processing seasonal agricultural products for off season.
54.	Sankalp	Bindu.S	Kollam	Product made from millets with refined texture.
55.	Sera Coffee	Jiju N Jacob	Kozhikode	Small group that grows coffee in Wayanad & Coorg.

56.	Simplify Agri Pvt Ltd	Rijish Rajan	Palakkad	Intelligent farm management platform designed to empower small and marginal farmers.
57.	Sirach Technologies Pvt Ltd	Dinto Davi T	Thrissur	AgroPredict-ICS: An intelligent collaborative system for early detection of pest and disease outbreaks and autonomous harvesting in black pepper cultivation.
58.	Smart Hive PN Junction Lab	Sethu Madhavan	Idukki	Smart hive and solutions.
59.	Spicon Bio	Rajani Rajan	Kottayam	Spirulina cookies.
60.	Sun shine solar solutions	Akhilan O R	Thrissur	Banana, tapioca, potato & jackfruit fried items with low temperature technology.
61.	Thattekkad Agro Farmers Producer Company LtD	Sabu Varghese	Ernakulam	Vacuum chips and Dehydrated Powders.
62.	TMJ Foods India Pvt Ltd	Thankachan T J	Alappuzha	Mushroom based vitamin D prominent powder to be taken in milk for designed level of vitamin D.
63.	Transal food products LLP	Ann Mathew Pampackal	Ernakulam	Manufacturing unit.
64.	Tubercle	Akhil Jose	Thrissur	Trader and manufacturing.
65.	VIR Naturals Pvt Ltd	Vinay Balakrishnan	Coimbatore	Alternative to single use plastic products from Agri waste.
66.	VSC Dairy Farmers Pvt Ltd	Vishnusagar M	Thrissur	Milk and value added milk products.
67.	Western Ghats Tropical Garden	Williams Mathew	Kozhikode	Chocolate, tropical fruits value addition & Farm Tourism.
68.	X Boson AI	Deepthi A	Palakkad	Provide fresh and healthy agri produce grown without pesticides or chemical fertilizers.

News Articles on the Program

Mathrubhumi മാതൃഭൂമി

കാർഷിക സർവകലാശാലയിൽ സംരംഭക-നിക്ഷേപക കൂട്ടായ്മ നാളെ

തൃശ്ശൂർ ▸ കേരള കാർഷിക സർവകലാശാലയിൽ വെള്ളിയാഴ്ച സംരംഭക-നിക്ഷേപക കൂട്ടായ്മ സംഘടിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. സർവകലാശാലയും ഹൈദരാബാദിലെ നാഷണൽ ഇൻസ്റ്റിറ്റ്യൂട്ട് ഓഫ് അഗ്രികൾച്ചറൽ എക്സ്റ്റൻഷൻ മാനേജ്മെന്റും ചേർന്നാണ് സംഘടിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്.

'കാർഷികമേഖലയിലെ സംരംഭക-നിക്ഷേപക സഹകരണവും പങ്കാളിത്തവും' എന്നതാണ് വിഷയം. സംരംഭകരെയും നിക്ഷേപകരെയും സംരംഭകത്വവികസന മേഖലയിലെ വിദഗ്ധരെയും അണിനിരത്തിസംഘടിപ്പിക്കുന്ന ഏകദിന കൂട്ടായ്മയുടെ ഉദ്ഘാടനം സർവകലാശാല വൈസ് ചാൻസലറും കാർഷികോത്പാദന കമ്മിഷണറുമായ ഡോ. ബി. അശോക് നിർവഹിക്കും.

കേരളത്തിലെ നിലവിലെ സ്റ്റാർട്ടപ്പ് ഇൻക്യുബേഷൻ പരിതസ്ഥിതികം, ഉത്പാദന, വിളവെടുപ്പാനന്തര മേഖലകളിലെ നൂതനത്വം എന്നിവ ആസ്പദമാക്കി പാനൽ ചർച്ചകളും സംരംഭകരുടെ ഉത്പന്ന പ്രദർശനവും ഉണ്ടാകും. വിദഗ്ധരുമായുള്ള സംവാദവും ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്ന് പരിപാടിയുടെ നോഡൽ ഓഫീസറും കാർഷിക സർവകലാശാല-അഗ്രിബിസിനസ് ഇൻക്യുബേറ്റർ മേധാവിയുമായ ഡോ.കെ.പി. സുധീർ അറിയിച്ചു.

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THE HINDU

KAU to host workshop for agri-start-ups

The Hindu Bureau
THRISSUR

In a bid to advance the agri-start-up ecosystem in the country, Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) will host a national workshop, 'Agri-StartUp Stakeholders Connect – Fostering Collaboration & Partnerships,' on June 20 on the KAU campus in Thrissur. The workshop will be held in association with the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad.

The programme aims at connecting emerging agri-start-ups with key stakeholders in Kerala's agricultural sector, fostering meaningful collaborations, market access, and strategic partnerships. It will feature interactive sessions on incubation ecosystems, production innovations and post-harvest synergies; panel discussions; networking opportunities; and a start-up exhibition, according to KAU sources.

Experts from leading institutions such as CSIR-NIIST, ICAR-CIFT, ICAR-IISR, Kerala Startup Mission, NIT Calicut and NABARD, and industry leaders will take part.

500 delegates

The programme will be formally inaugurated by B. Ashok, Vice- Chancellor, KAU, and Agricultural Production Commissioner, Government of Kerala. The event is expected to witness the participation of over 500 delegates, including start-up founders, incubators, investors, policymakers, researchers, faculty, and students, all coming together to build synergy in the agri-innovation landscape.

K.P. Sudheer, nodal officer of the programme and Head of Agri-Business Incubator, said that the event would serve as a valuable platform for collaboration with experts, and the networking opportunities it offered would be a significant asset in strengthening Kerala's agripreneurship ecosystem.

മാധ്യമം

കാർഷിക സർവകലാശാലയിൽ നടന്ന സംരംഭകർ, നിക്ഷേപകർ, വിദഗ്ധർ എന്നിവരുടെ സംഗമത്തിൽ നിന്ന്

സംരംഭകത്വ സംഗമത്തിന് വേദിയായി കാർഷിക സർവകലാശാല

തൃശൂർ: കാർഷിക മേഖലയിലെ സംരംഭകർ, നിക്ഷേപകർ, വിദഗ്ധർ എന്നിവരുടെ സംഗമത്തിന് വേദിയൊരുക്കി കാർഷിക സർവകലാശാല.

കാർഷിക സർവകലാശാലയുടെയും ഹൈദരാബാദിലെ നാഷനൽ ഇൻസ്റ്റിറ്റ്യൂട്ട് ഓഫ് അഗ്രികൾച്ചറൽ എക്സ്റ്റൻഷൻ മാനേജ്മെന്റിന്റെയും നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ നടന്ന ഏകദിന കൂട്ടായ്മയിൽ 500ഓളം സ്റ്റാർട്ടപ്പുകളും നിക്ഷേപകരും വിദ്യാർഥികളും പങ്കെടുത്തു. കാർഷിക സർവകലാശാല വി.സി ഡോ. ബി. അശോക് ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു.

കൃഷി ഡയറക്ടർ ശ്രീറാം വെങ്കിട്ടരാമൻ മുഖ്യാതിഥിയായി. കാർഷിക സർവകലാശാല വിജ്ഞാന വ്യാപന വിഭാഗം മേധാവി ഡോ. ബിനു പി. ബോണി അധ്യക്ഷത വഹിച്ചു. ഡോ. ശരവണൻ രാജ്, ഡോ. എ. സക്കീർ ഹുസൈൻ, ഡോ. കെ.എൻ. അനിത് എന്നിവർ സംസാരിച്ചു.

വിദഗ്ധരുമായുള്ള സംവാദം, നെറ്റ്‌വർക്കിങ് എന്നിവ വഴി സ്റ്റാർട്ടപ്പുകൾക്ക് അവസരം പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുത്താനും കാർഷിക സംരംഭകത്വ വികസനത്തിനും സംഗമം വഴിത്തിരിവാകുമെന്ന് അഗ്രിബിസിനസ് ഇൻക്യുബേറ്റർ മേധാവി ഡോ. കെ.പി സുധീർ പറഞ്ഞു.

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