



MANAGE - Fisheries Innovation and Startup Hub (MANAGE-FISHub)

Annual Report

2025-26



MANAGE FISHub



MANAGE-FISHub



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MANAGE FISHub



MANAGE-FISHub



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Brief Introduction

MANAGE

The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), an autonomous organization under the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, serves as the leading institution for agricultural extension in the country. MANAGE has been essential in implementing various national programs that have significantly shaped India's agricultural sector.

MANAGE-FISHub

MANAGE-Fisheries Innovation and Startup Hub (MANAGE-FISHub) is a national-level incubation and innovation hub hosted at the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE). It was established at MANAGE in 2025 with the support of the Department of Fisheries (DoF), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAHD), Government of India, to transform the fisheries and aquaculture sector through innovative technology, entrepreneurship, and ecosystem development.

Vision of MANAGE-FISHub

The Vision of M-FISHub is to foster sustainable innovation and entrepreneurship in the fisheries and aquaculture sector by nurturing startups, accelerating technology adoption, and promoting inclusive growth across the value chain.

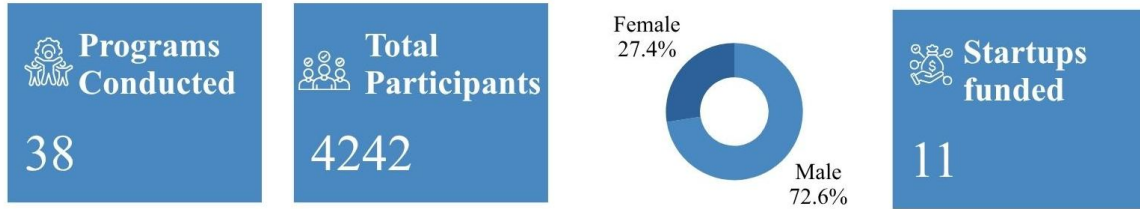
Objectives of MANAGE-FISHub

- To mentor and promote innovation-driven, technology- and service-based fisheries startups.
- To create employment and entrepreneurial opportunities aligned with national priorities.
- To enable rapid commercialization of technologies developed by startups, R&D institutions, academia, or individual innovators.
- To foster a vibrant network among startups, entrepreneurs, fishers, researchers, financial institutions, and industry players.
- Provide startups with access to affordable and value-added services, including mentoring, legal, financial, technical, and IP-related support.

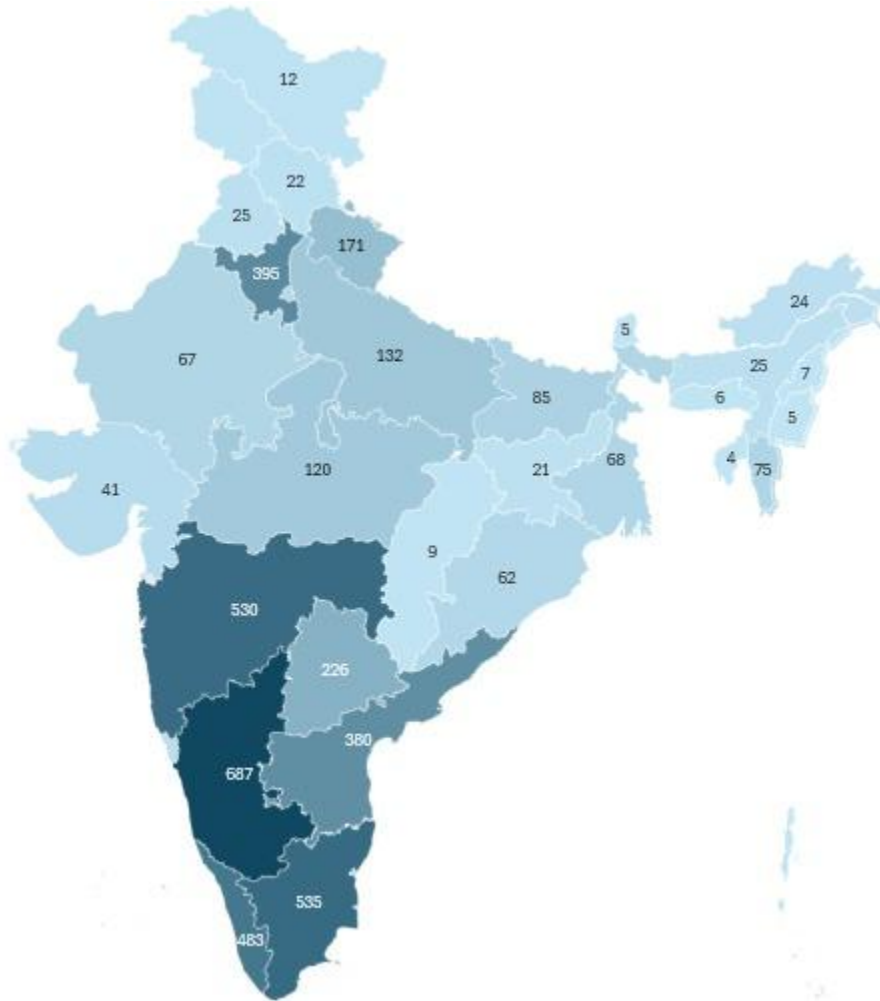




Glimpse of MANAGE-FISHub 2025-26

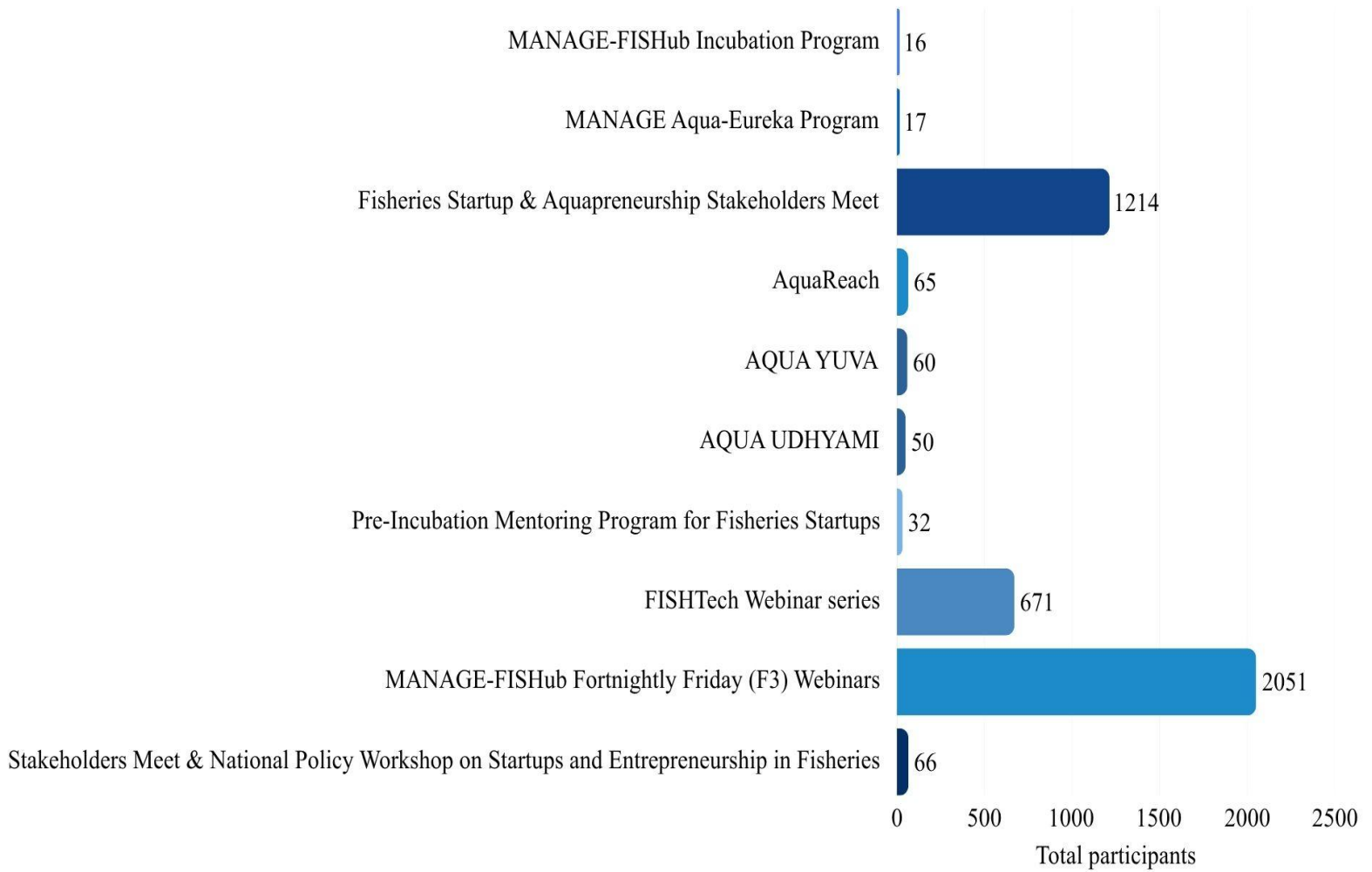


State wise distribution of participants





Total participants across programs



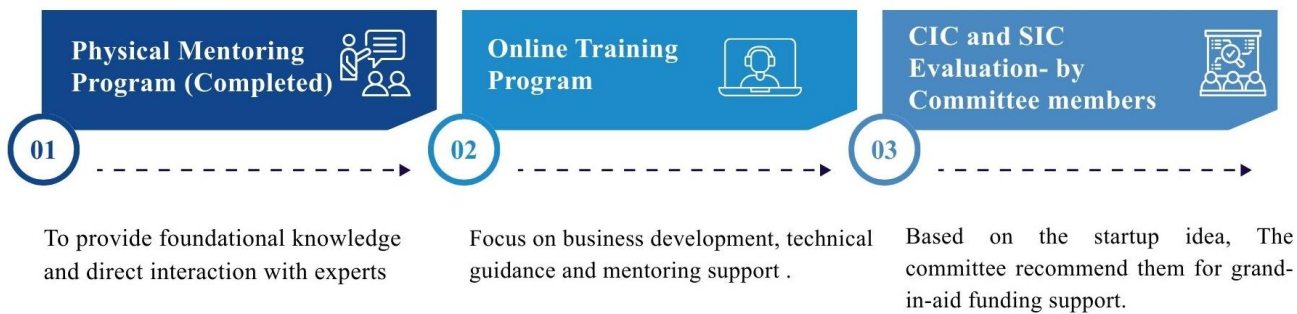
MANAGE-FISHub Incubation Program

The MANAGE–FISHub Incubation Program (Cohort-1) is a flagship national initiative designed to provide comprehensive mentoring, technical validation, and market exposure to high-potential fisheries startups. The program serves as a critical bridge between innovation and commercialization, helping aquapreneurs refine their business models and strengthen their technological solutions to address bottlenecks in the fisheries value chain. Launched on August 15, 2025, the program attracted 42 applications nationwide, resulting in the selection of 22 startups.

Operational Timeline of the Program

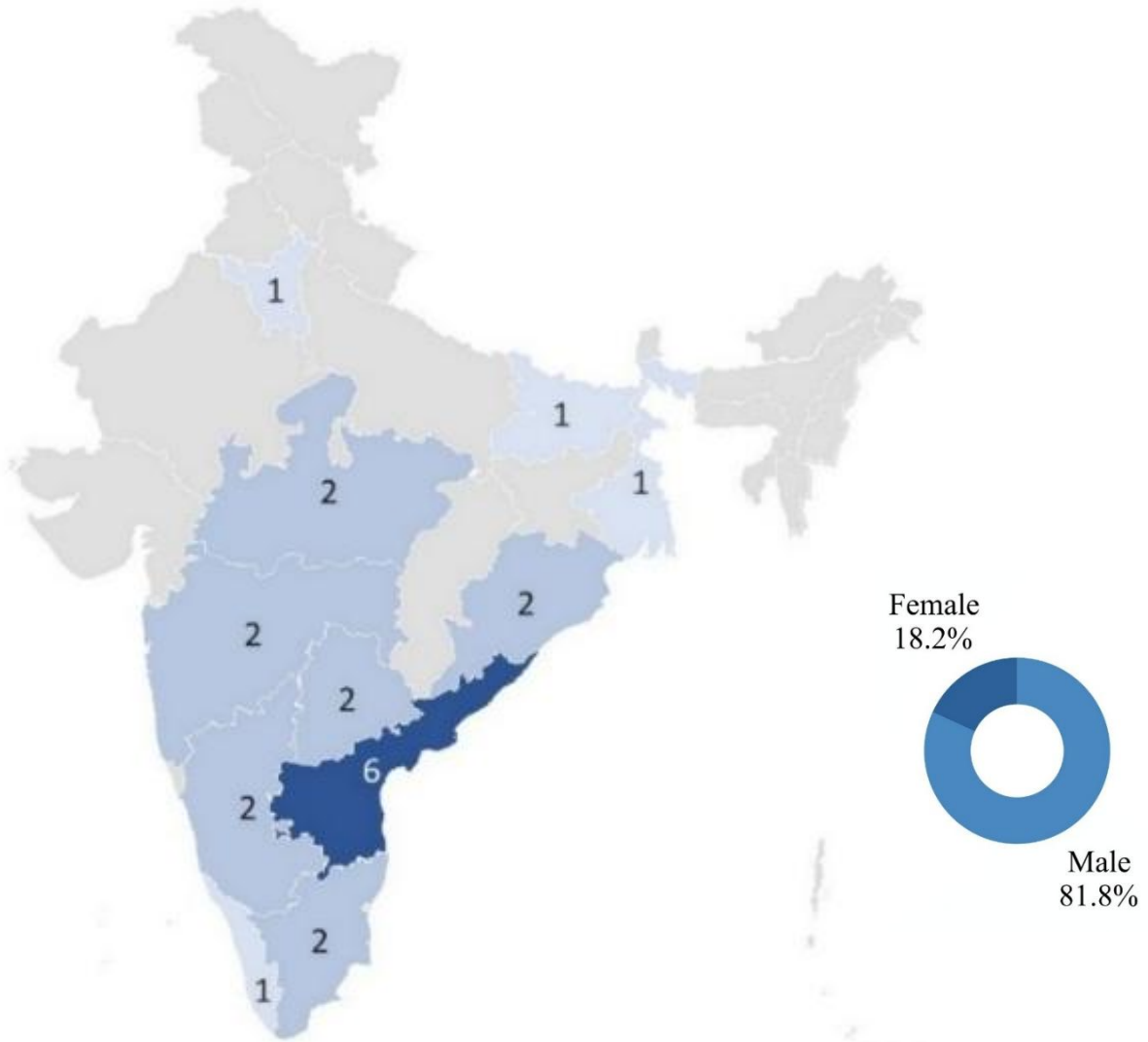
Program Component	Timeline	Primary Objective
Registration	15 Aug – 25 Nov, 2025	National outreach to identify high-potential fisheries innovations.
Physical Mentoring Program	15 – 19 Dec, 2025	Foundational knowledge building and direct interaction with domain experts.
Online Training Program	05 – 31 Jan, 2026	Focused mentoring for Pre-Seed and Seed Stage startups on business development and technical guidance.
CIC Presentations (AOP & SAIP)	02 – 06 Feb, 2026	Evaluation by the Committee for Agri-Entrepreneurship Orientation (AOP) and Startup Agri-Business Incubation (SAIP).

Program Structure



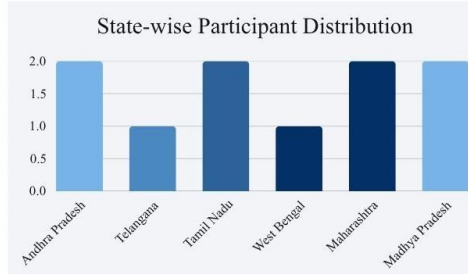
Participation Trends and Inclusivity

- **Gender Diversity:** The program featured 18 male-led (81.8%) and 4 female-led (18.2%) enterprises.
- **Geographical Reach:** Participants represented from 11 states including Andhra Pradesh (6), Maharashtra (3), Telangana (2), Karnataka (2), Tamil Nadu (2), Madhya Pradesh (2) and West Bengal, Haryana, Bihar, Odisha, and Kerala (1 each).



Physical Mentoring Program (15-19 December, 2025)

9 Startup teams Participated

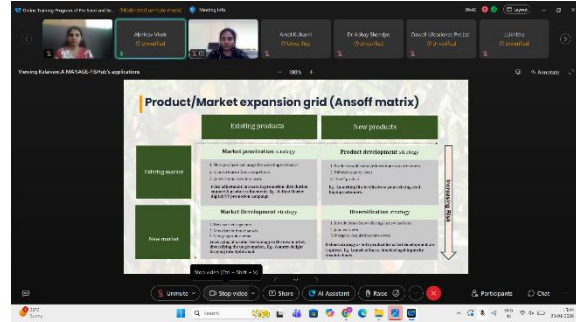
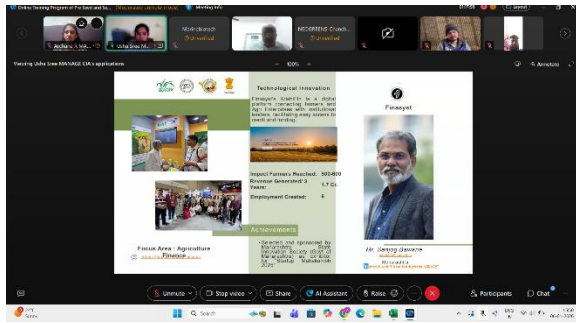


The MANAGE–FISHub Incubation Program: Physical Mentoring Program (15–19 December, 2025) included structured sessions on key aspects of startup development such as Business Plan Preparation and Effective Pitch Deck Preparation, enabling participants to understand the fundamentals of presenting and planning their ventures. Sessions on Networking were conducted to highlight the importance of building professional connections within the startup ecosystem. The program also covered essential legal and regulatory components through sessions on Intellectual Property Rights for Startups and Regulatory Compliance for Startups, including GST and other statutory requirements. An interactive session with Fisheries News provided exposure to media engagement and sectoral communication. In addition, participants were introduced to the Business Model Canvas as a strategic tool for business planning, followed by a hands-on activity on the Preparation of Individual Business Models, allowing them to apply the concepts learned during the program.

Online Training Program (05–31 January, 2026)

It covered a comprehensive set of topics essential for startup development. These sessions included idea validation and design thinking, business model planning, and intellectual property rights along with legal compliance. The program also addressed government schemes, funding opportunities, and financial analysis to support venture growth.

Further sessions focused on market research, product development, and digital marketing strategies, along with competitor mapping and revenue strategies. In addition, emphasis was given to cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset and strategic self-leadership. The program also provided opportunities for participants to learn from successful agri and fisheries startup founders, offering practical insights into real-world entrepreneurial journeys.



Centre of Excellence Incubation Committee (CIC) and Startup Selection and Investment Committee (SIC) Evaluation (02–06 February, 2026)

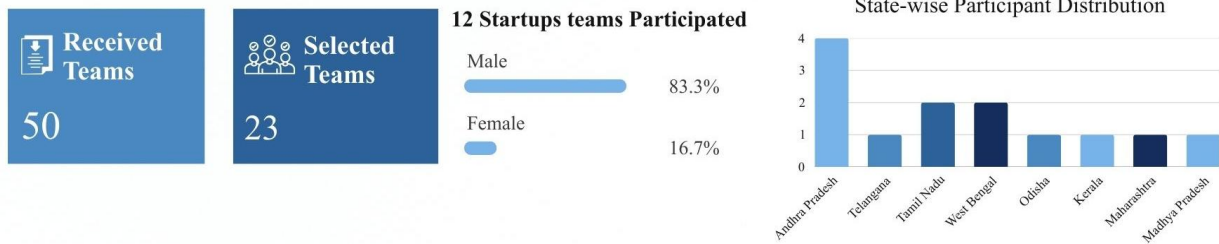
It involved the assessment and evaluation of startup teams across different stages of incubation. Under the Seed Stage (Startup Agri-Incubation Programme), a total of five startup teams presented their ventures, of which four were selected for funding support.

In the Pre-Seed Stage (Agripreneurship Orientation Programme), six startup teams presented their ideas, with five teams receiving funding. Similarly, under the Student Pre-Seed Stage (Student Orientation Programme), four startup teams presented, and two teams were awarded funding. The evaluation process facilitated the identification of promising startups and provided them with opportunities for further incubation and financial support.

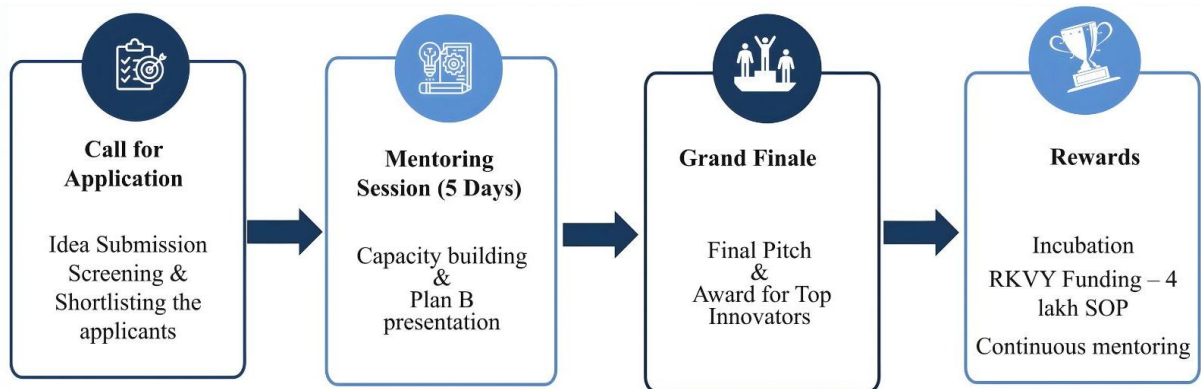


MANAGE Aqua-Eureka Program

The MANAGE Aqua-Eureka Program is a national-level innovation and business challenge aimed at promoting innovative ideas and technological solutions to address key challenges in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.



Program Structure



The programme was implemented through a structured process comprising a call for applications, a five-day mentoring programme, a grand finale with final pitch presentations, and post-programme incubation and continuous mentoring support for selected startups. During Aqua-Eureka 2025, registrations were open from 15 August to 30 November 2025, and the mentoring programme was conducted from 15–19 December 2025. A total of 50 applications were received, of which 23 startups were shortlisted and 12 startups participated, involving 17 participants (83.3% male and 16.7% female, including two women-led startups).

Participants represented the states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Telangana. The programme included 10 sessions, comprising 7 expert sessions and 3 field visits, providing participants with comprehensive business, technical, regulatory, and field-level exposure to strengthen innovation readiness and entrepreneurial capacity.



Report of MANAGE-Aqua Eureka is available online for open access at:
<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/images/AquaEureka/AquaEurekaReport2025.pdf>

Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet

Total Participants

1214 stakeholders

- Male: 665
- Female: 549

States Completed

1. Tamil Nadu
2. Mangalore
3. Andhra Pradesh
4. Kerala
5. Haryana
6. Telangana

Expert Sessions

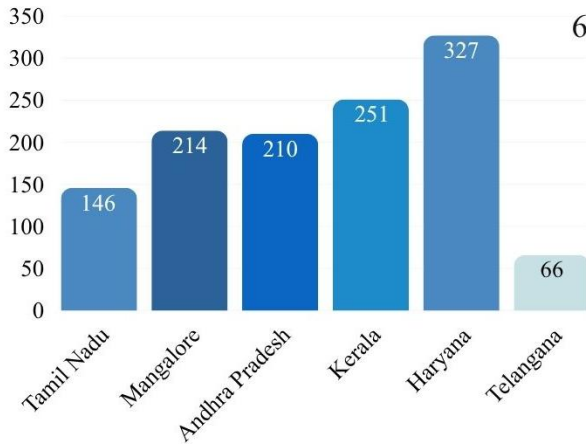
49 sessions conducted

Startup Exhibitions

24 stalls

Startup Pitching

36 startup pitches



The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet, organised at the Institute of Fisheries Post Graduate Studies (IFPGS), Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University (TNJFU), Vaniyanchavadi, Chennai, on 19 December 2025, was conducted to facilitate dialogue among startups, entrepreneurs, researchers, industry experts, and policymakers to strengthen the fisheries innovation ecosystem.

The meet witnessed the participation of 146 stakeholders, including 92 male and 54 female participants, reflecting inclusive engagement.

A total of 9 expert sessions were conducted by eminent speakers representing key institutions such as ICAR–Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Madras Regional Station; ICAR–Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA); and the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare (DoF&FW), along with startups such as Aquaconnect, Vridhi Techno Farms Pvt. Ltd., and Bharath Rhino BioTech Pvt. Ltd., highlighting a strong convergence of research, policy, and entrepreneurship in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

Participants represented the states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Telangana, Kerala, and Karnataka, demonstrating broad regional representation.

The event also provided a platform for startup pitching (5 sessions) and startup exhibitions (4), enabling entrepreneurs to showcase innovations, receive expert feedback, and explore collaboration opportunities. Overall, the stakeholders meet strengthened networking, knowledge exchange, and visibility for fisheries startups, contributing to the development of a collaborative aquapreneurship ecosystem.

The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet (Chennai) is available online for open access at:

<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishhub/images/Inernship/Fisheries%20Startup%20Stakeholders%20Meet%20-%20Chennai%20-%20Report.pdf>



The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet, organised at the College of Fisheries, Mangalore, on 9 January 2026, was conducted to facilitate dialogue among startups, entrepreneurs, researchers, industry experts, and policymakers to strengthen the fisheries

innovation ecosystem.

The meet witnessed the participation of 214 stakeholders, including 119 male and 95 female participants, reflecting inclusive engagement. A total of 8 expert sessions were conducted by eminent speakers representing key institutions such as the Department of Fisheries, Government of Karnataka; ICAR–Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Regional Centre, Mangalore; Atal Incubation Center, Nitte University Centre for Science Education and Research (NUCSER); Karnataka Fisheries Development Corporation Ltd. (KFDC); and the College of Fisheries, Mangalore, along with experts from the MSME and startup ecosystem, highlighting a strong convergence of research, governance, and entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector.



Participants represented the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat, demonstrating broad regional representation. The event also provided a platform for startup pitching (9 sessions) and startup exhibitions (6), enabling entrepreneurs to showcase innovations, receive expert feedback, and explore collaboration opportunities. Overall, the stakeholders meet strengthened networking, knowledge exchange, and visibility for fisheries startups, contributing to the development of a collaborative aquapreneurship ecosystem.



Report of The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet (Mangalore) is available online for open access at:

<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishhub/images/Inernship/Karnataka%20Fisheries%20Stakeholder%20Meet%20Report.pdf>

The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet was conducted at the College of Fisheries Science, Muthukur, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh, on 21 January 2026, with the objective of fostering dialogue among startups, entrepreneurs, researchers, industry experts, farmers, and policymakers to strengthen the fisheries innovation ecosystem.

The programme was attended by 210 stakeholders, including 132 male and 78 female participants, all representing the state of Andhra Pradesh. A total of six expert sessions were delivered by eminent resource persons representing key institutions such as ICAR–Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Visakhapatnam Regional Station; National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Vijayawada; College of Fisheries Science, Muthukur; and Andhra Pradesh Fisheries University (APFU), highlighting a strong integration of research, extension, and institutional support in the fisheries sector.

The event also featured three experience sharing sessions, four startup pitching sessions and five startup exhibitions, providing a platform for entrepreneurs to showcase their innovations, receive expert feedback, and explore potential collaboration opportunities. Overall, the stakeholders meet facilitated effective networking, knowledge exchange, and enhanced visibility for fisheries startups, contributing significantly to the development of a collaborative and sustainable aquapreneurship ecosystem.

Report of The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet (Andhra Pradesh) is available online for open access at:

<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishhub/images/Inernship/Report%20Stakeholder%20MANAGE-%20APFU.pdf>





The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet was conducted at the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Kochi, on 23 January 2026, in collaboration with the Business Incubation Centre, KUFOS. The meet aimed to foster meaningful dialogue among startups, entrepreneurs, researchers, industry experts, farmers, and policymakers to strengthen and expand the fisheries innovation ecosystem.

The programme recorded the registration of 251 stakeholders, including 211 female and 103 male participants, representing the state of Kerala. It also featured exhibitions by seven startups and pitching sessions by fifteen startups, providing a dynamic platform for entrepreneurs to showcase their innovations, receive expert feedback, and explore potential collaborations and market linkages.

A total of ten expert sessions were delivered by eminent resource persons representing key institutions such as Kerala Startup Mission, Department of Fisheries Government of Kerala, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, and ICAR Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, along with leading entrepreneurs from the fisheries and food processing sector. These sessions highlighted a strong convergence of academia, policy, finance, and startup ecosystems in promoting fisheries-based entrepreneurship.

In addition, the meet served as a valuable networking and knowledge-sharing platform, enabling participants to exchange ideas on emerging technologies, sustainable aquaculture practices, value addition, and market expansion strategies. The interactions and deliberations during the programme are expected to catalyze new partnerships, encourage innovation-led enterprises, and contribute to the overall growth and resilience of the fisheries sector in the region.

Report of The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet (Kerala) is available online for open access at: <https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishhub/images/Inernship/Kerala-%20Stakeholders%20Report.pdf>



The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet was conducted at Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCSHAU), Hisar, Haryana, on 16 February 2026, in collaboration with CCSHAU, with the objective of bringing together key stakeholders of the fisheries and aquaculture ecosystem on a common platform to foster innovation, collaboration, and entrepreneurship development. The programme aimed to facilitate knowledge exchange, strengthen partnerships, and bridge information gaps among startups, entrepreneurs, researchers, industry experts, farmers, and policymakers.



The programme recorded the participation of 327 stakeholders, including 195 male and 132 female participants, representing four states, reflecting inclusive and diverse stakeholder engagement. The participants comprised students, fisheries startups, aquapreneurs, progressive farmers, representatives from academic and research institutions, financial organizations, incubation centres, and other ecosystem stakeholders.

The programme was organized into 15 sessions, including inaugural deliberations, technical sessions, startup pitching, experience sharing, and stakeholder interactions, providing a comprehensive platform for dialogue and collaboration. The programme also included startup exhibitions and networking sessions, where emerging enterprises showcased their innovations and interacted with experts, financial institutions, and incubation centres. Startup pitching sessions enabled entrepreneurs to present their business models, receive expert feedback, and explore funding and partnership opportunities.

A total of ten sessions were delivered by eminent speakers and experts, covering key themes such as financial and institutional support mechanisms, research and knowledge systems in fisheries, skill development and capacity building, incubation and mentorship support, and entrepreneurship development in the fisheries sector.

Experience sharing sessions by aquapreneurs provided practical insights into startup journeys, challenges, and opportunities, while interactive discussions and Q&A sessions facilitated deeper engagement among participants.

A total of nine expert sessions were delivered by eminent resource persons representing key institutions such as National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD); ICAR–Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), Rohtak Centre; Aquaculture Research and Training Institute (ARTI); and the Agri Business Incubation Centre (ABIC–CCSHAU), highlighting a strong convergence of academia, research, finance, and incubation support for fostering fisheries and aquaculture entrepreneurship.



Report of The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet (Haryana) is available online for open access at:

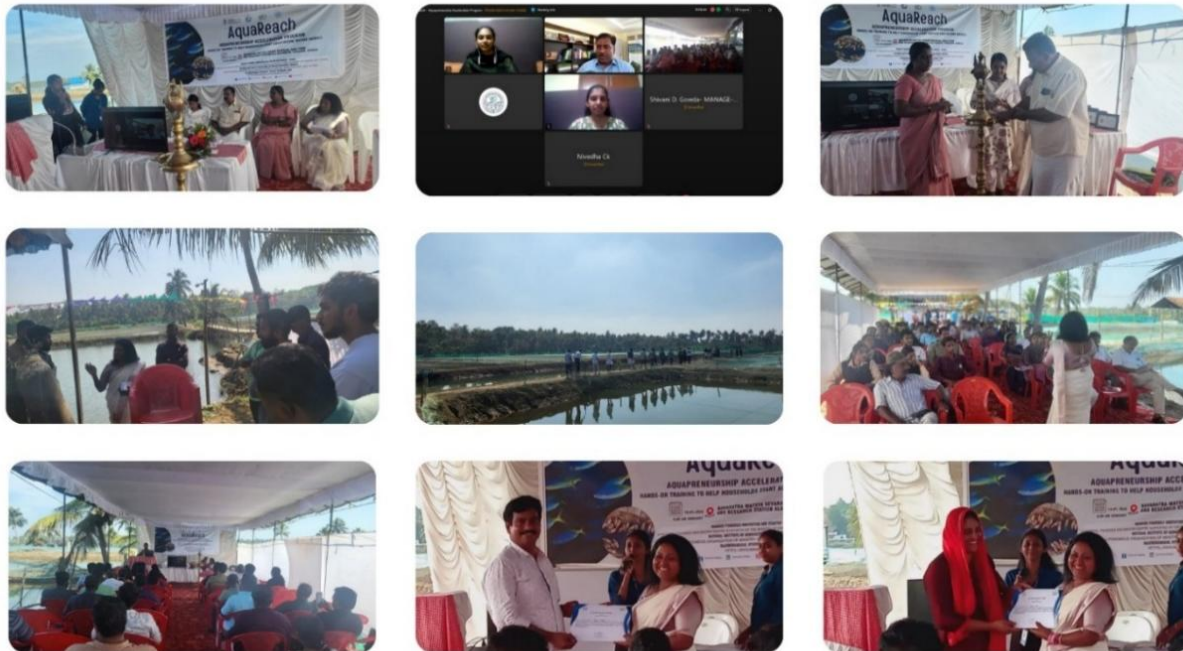
<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/images/Inernship/Haryana%20-%20Fisheries%20Startup%20&%20Aquapreneurship%20Stakeholders%20Meet%20-%20Brochure.pdf>



Aqua Reach – Aquapreneurship Development Programme

Aqua Reach is a district-level aquapreneurship acceleration initiative of MANAGE–FISHub aimed at promoting practical, income-generating aquaculture models that can be adopted immediately by households after training. The programme focuses on developing community-based micro-enterprises using locally available resources and strengthening district-level aquapreneurs through hands-on demonstrations, expert mentoring, and field-based learning.

As part of the Aqua Reach initiative, an Aquapreneurship Acceleration Programme was successfully conducted on 13 January 2026 at Navaratna Matsya Sevana Kendram, Aqua Farm, Ala Gothiruth, Thrissur, Kerala. Registrations for the programme were open from 23 December 2025 to 8 January 2026, through both online and offline modes. A total of 70 registrations were received, of which 65 participants actively attended the programme. The registration fee was fixed at ₹1,000 per participant.



Women constituted 18% of the total participants, while the remaining participants were men. The programme witnessed participation from different districts of Kerala, with 80% of participants from Thrissur district, followed by 12% from Ernakulam and 8% from Alappuzha, indicating strong local engagement along with regional representation.



The programme was conducted entirely at the farm location, enabling participants to gain direct field-level exposure. The technical sessions were delivered by Dr. Akhilesh M. A., Managing Director, Navaratna Matsya Sevana Kendram, Kerala, and covered the following topics:

1. Pond Preparation
2. Integrated Aqua-Agri Farming
3. Seed Production of Pearl Spot and Cage Culture
4. On-site Water Testing Demonstration

In addition to the lectures, participants were taken on a guided farm visit, which provided hands-on insights into real-time aquaculture operations, farm management practices, and integrated farming models. The combination of expert lectures, live demonstrations, and field exposure ensured a holistic learning experience and strengthened participants' practical understanding and entrepreneurial orientation in aquaculture.



Aqua Yuva – Fisheries Entrepreneurship Development Programme

The Aqua Yuva – Fisheries Entrepreneurship Development Programme (FEDP) was organized by the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, through its MANAGE Fisheries Innovation and Startup Hub (MANAGE-FISHub), in collaboration with Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCS HAU), Hisar, Haryana.

The two-day programme was conducted on 17–18 February 2026 at the College of Fisheries Science, CCS HAU, Hisar with the objective of creating awareness among fisheries students about entrepreneurship opportunities in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. The registration fee for the program is ₹500 per participant.

A total of 60 participants, including Undergraduate, Postgraduate, and Ph.D. fisheries students from CCS HAU and Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU), Punjab, attended the programme. The event included an inaugural session, technical sessions, an interactive activity, and a valedictory session.



Expert sessions were delivered by resource persons representing key institutions such as MSME Development Centre, Hisar and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), along with entrepreneurs from the startup ecosystem including Herbchick F&B Pvt.



Ltd. and Nextdot, covering themes such as fisheries sector opportunities, government schemes, business planning, digital marketing, value chain development, and financial support mechanisms.

The programme provided participants with exposure to fisheries entrepreneurship, startup opportunities, government schemes, and business planning, encouraging students to explore aquapreneurship and enterprise development in the fisheries sector.

Report is available online:

<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/images/Inernship/Aqua%20yuva%20training%20final%20report.pdf>



Aqua Udyami – Fisheries Entrepreneurship Development Programme

The Aqua Udyami – Fisheries Entrepreneurship Development Programme (FEDP) was organized on 19 February 2026 by National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) through MANAGE-FISHub in collaboration with Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCSHAU), Hisar, Haryana, at the College of Fisheries Science, CCSHAU, Hisar.

The programme aimed to promote entrepreneurship among fish farmers, fisheries youth, and aspiring aquapreneurs by providing knowledge on fisheries enterprises, financial support systems, market opportunities, and risk management practices. A total of 50 participants attended the one-day programme.

The technical sessions covered key themes such as fisheries enterprise development, government schemes, institutional and financial support, branding, market linkages, entrepreneurial skills, and risk management for sustainable fisheries businesses. The programme concluded with a valedictory session where the programme report was presented and the initiative was appreciated, encouraging participants to explore entrepreneurship opportunities in the fisheries sector. Report available online:

[https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/images/Inernship/Aqua%20udhyami%20program%20report%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/images/Inernship/Aqua%20udhyami%20program%20report%20(1).pdf)





Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet & National Policy Workshop on Startups and Entrepreneurship in Fisheries

The Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet & National Policy Workshop on Startups and Entrepreneurship in Fisheries was conducted at the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, from 16–17 March 2026, with the objective of creating a convergent platform for stakeholders to collaborate, connect, and catalyze the fisheries startup ecosystem in India.

The programme aimed to bridge the gap between policy frameworks and field-level practices by facilitating dialogue among policymakers, researchers, financial institutions, startups, and aquapreneurs, and to generate actionable policy recommendations for strengthening entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector.

A total of 66 participants representing 13 organizations, along with 26 startups, took part in the programme. The event brought together aquapreneurs, innovators, policymakers, experts, and professionals from across the fisheries sector.

It served as a dynamic platform to showcase innovations, facilitate exchange of ideas, and foster collaboration aimed at strengthening the fisheries startup ecosystem and advancing entrepreneurship in the blue economy.

Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet (16 March 2026)

The programme brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including fisheries startups, aquapreneurs, researchers, academicians, financial organizations, policymakers, and representatives from incubation centres and industry, ensuring comprehensive ecosystem representation. The event focused on key areas such as innovation-driven aquaculture, value chain development, digital transformation, climate resilience, and entrepreneurship opportunities within the Blue Economy.

The programme commenced with an inaugural session, where the importance of collaborative platforms in strengthening fisheries entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystems was emphasized. This was followed by a series of technical sessions, expert talks, startup pitching sessions, panel





discussions, and policy dialogues, covering diverse themes such as seaweed farming, recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS), crab farming, ornamental fisheries, pearl culture, digital advisory services, seafood processing and value addition, and emerging startup opportunities in the fisheries sector.

A key highlight of the programme was the startup exhibition, where aquapreneurs showcased innovations in areas such as fish processing, seaweed-based products, aquaculture inputs, and sustainable farming systems. The startup pitching sessions provided a platform for entrepreneurs to present their business models, receive expert feedback, and explore investment and collaboration opportunities.

National Policy Workshop on Startups and Entrepreneurship in Fisheries (17 March 2026)

The second day focused on policy dialogue and institutional strengthening. The workshop brought together policymakers, researchers, financial institutions, and sector experts to deliberate on challenges and opportunities in promoting fisheries entrepreneurship. The sessions addressed key issues such as access to finance, incubation support, infrastructure development, market linkages, and integration of digital technologies. Panel discussions and interactive sessions facilitated the exchange of ideas and identification of gaps in existing policies.

The programme also featured dedicated policy-oriented sessions and panel discussions focusing on strengthening institutional frameworks, improving access to finance, promoting cooperative models, enhancing extension services, and integrating digital technologies such as AI and IoT into fisheries practices. Discussions emphasized the need for decentralized incubation support, cold chain infrastructure, cluster-based development, and women-centric interventions in post-harvest and value addition activities.

Experience-sharing sessions by successful aquapreneurs provided practical insights into entrepreneurial journeys, challenges, and scalable business models, highlighting the importance of innovation, market linkage, and institutional support in building sustainable enterprises.

The programme concluded with the formulation of key policy recommendations and action points aimed at fostering inclusive growth, promoting grassroots entrepreneurship, strengthening infrastructure, enhancing market linkages, and supporting technology-driven innovations in the

fisheries sector. Overall, the programme served as a significant step towards building a robust, innovation-led, and sustainable fisheries startup ecosystem in India, contributing to the advancement of the Blue Economy.

The workshop concluded with the formulation of key policy recommendations aimed at promoting innovation, strengthening institutional support, enhancing access to finance, and fostering inclusive and sustainable growth in the fisheries startup ecosystem. Overall, the two-day programme provided a comprehensive platform for stakeholder engagement and policy-level deliberations, contributing to the advancement of a robust and innovation-driven Blue Economy.





MANAGE-FISHub Internship Program

The MANAGE–FISHub Internship Program was designed to support the activities of the incubation centre by engaging postgraduate and Ph.D. students from fisheries and agricultural extension disciplines. The programme focuses on coordination with fisheries entrepreneurs and ecosystem stakeholders, documentation of case studies and training outcomes, support in organising webinars, field visits to fisheries startups, development of outreach content, and assistance in entrepreneurship development and mentoring programmes. The internship is structured for a duration of three to six months.

The first announcement of the internship programme was released on 1 August 2025, with the application window open until 20 August 2025, under which three interns were selected. The second announcement was issued on 24 December 2025, with the last date for submission of applications being 16 January 2026. Following an interview process, four interns were selected under this phase.

Subsequently, the third announcement was released on 20 February 2026, with the last date for application submission being 10 March 2026. After the interview process, six interns were selected, out of which five candidates joined the programme.

In total, the internship programme has engaged interns across multiple phases. Mr. Selva Clinton T completed a one-month internship, and Ms. Kalaivani A successfully completed a three-month internship. Ms. Archana R and Mr. Santhosh Kumar M are currently undergoing a six-month internship. Under the second phase, Mr. Dani Glenn Irish V and Ms. Neha Rani joined the programme. Under the third phase, the interns who joined include Mr. Rebba Kishore Kumar, Ms. Likitha K, Mr. Jogiparthi Venkata Sai, Mr. Mahiwal Singh, and Ms. Vishmaya J.

The internship programme has significantly contributed to strengthening the operational, outreach, and research activities of MANAGE–FISHub while providing hands-on learning and capacity-building opportunities for students in the fisheries and agricultural extension domains



MANAGE-FISHub Fortnightly Friday (F3) Webinars

The MANAGE–FISHub Fortnightly Friday (F3) Webinars were conducted on a fortnightly basis (2nd and 4th Fridays) to facilitate discussions on innovations, emerging technologies, startup success stories, and business opportunities in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. A total of 17 webinars were organized with 34 expert speakers, including startup founders and industry professionals, recording an overall participation of 2,051 participants. The gender distribution indicated 86.6% male (1,775) and 13.4% female (276) participation.

The webinars demonstrated strong national outreach, with significant participation from Karnataka (459), Maharashtra (387), Tamil Nadu (191), Telangana (167), Uttar Pradesh (111), Andhra Pradesh (109), Madhya Pradesh (103), and Bihar (65). Notable contributions were also observed from Kerala (58), West Bengal (52), Rajasthan (49), Delhi (48), Haryana (45), Odisha (34), Uttarakhand (25), Gujarat (25), Punjab (22), Himachal Pradesh (21), and Assam (17). Participation from other States and Union Territories remained modest, alongside 10 international participants, reflecting the programme’s expanding national and global engagement.

Webinar reports and recorded sessions are available online for open access at: <https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/Webinars.aspx>



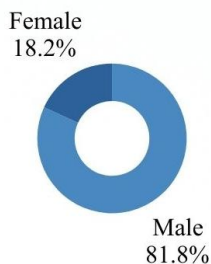
Pre-Incubation Mentoring Program for Fisheries Startups

The Pre-Incubation Mentoring Programme for Fishery Startups was conducted from 1 December to 24 December 2025 with the objective of supporting idea and pre-idea stage fisheries and aquaculture startups through structured mentoring, expert guidance, and ecosystem exposure.

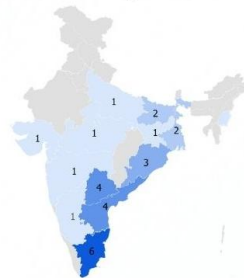
A total of 32 participants enrolled in the programme, representing early-stage ventures from 13 states, with participation from Tamil Nadu (6), Telangana (5), Andhra Pradesh (4), Kerala (3), Odisha (3), Bihar (2), West Bengal (2), and one participant each from Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, and Uttar Pradesh. In terms of participant demographics, 81.3% were male and 18.8% were female. Individual mentorship support was provided to 13 selected startups through one-on-one expert interactions.

The programme comprised 14 expert-led technical and managerial sessions covering key aspects of the fisheries startup ecosystem, along with 11 experience-sharing sessions delivered by successful entrepreneurs and industry professionals across diverse thematic areas. Certificates of participation were distributed to eligible participants upon successful completion of the programme.

Report of the program is available online: https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/Report_Pre-Incubation_Mentoring_Program_for_Fisheries_Startups.pdf



State-wise Participant Distribution





FISHTech Webinar

The FISHTech Webinar Series is a flagship knowledge-sharing initiative of MANAGE–FISHub aimed at showcasing innovative and scalable fisheries technologies developed by ICAR institutes, State Agricultural Universities, research institutions, and other academic and R&D organizations across India.

The series is designed to bridge the gap between technology developers and end users by providing a structured national platform for technology dissemination, dialogue, and awareness creation. It is being conducted from 21 January to 30 January 2026 in collaboration with the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS).

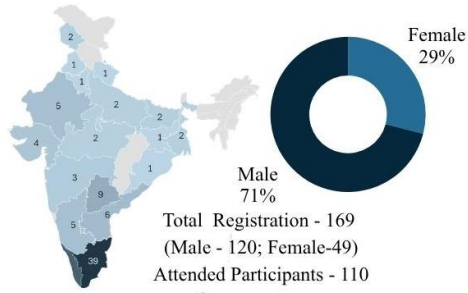
The webinar covers key thematic areas including captive breeding of freshwater fishes, seaweed value-added products, recent advances in aqua feed technology, bioactive peptide production from fish waste, indoor shrimp farming initiatives, value-added fish products, ornamental fish culture, and new trends in mud crab management, delivered by domain experts from KUFOS.

The sessions are available online on the MANAGE–FISHub YouTube channel:

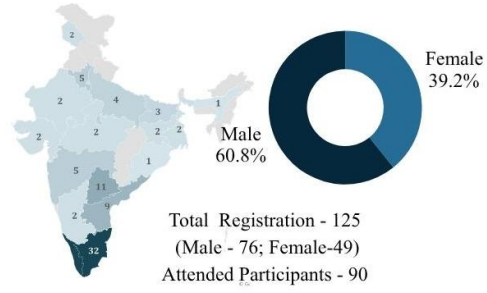
https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4G41x3BKm6lUBmHoLiRlGoB_5Efxiaep&si=D_9HFfN7CuCtUiWK



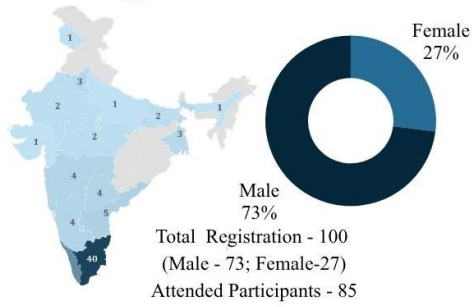
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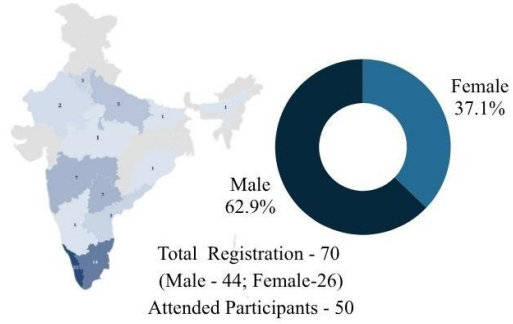
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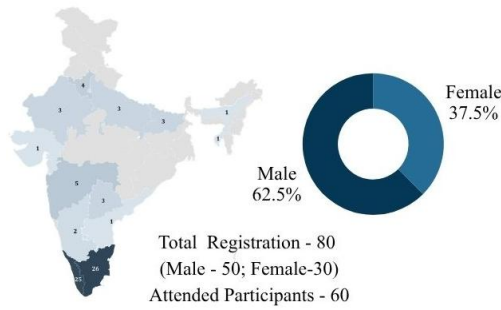
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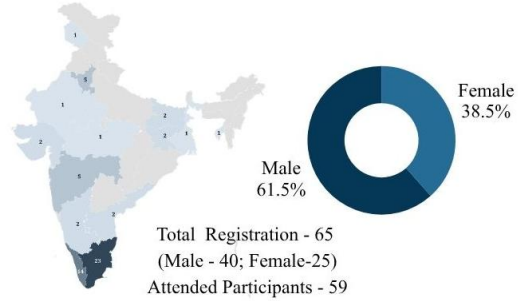
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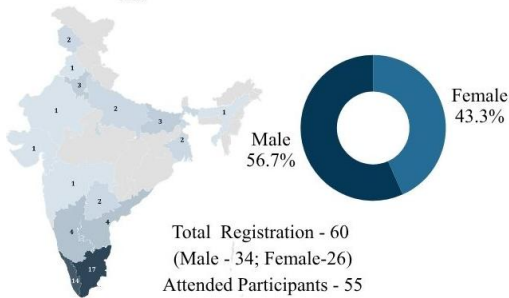
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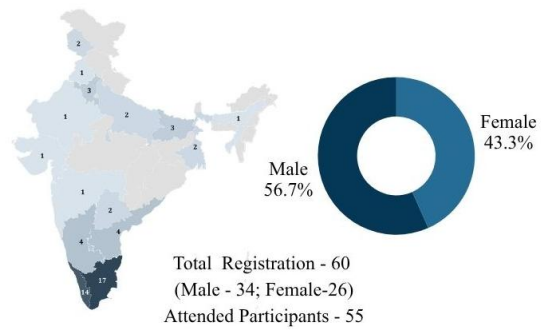
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MANAGE–FISHub Participation in World Aquaculture 2025, Hyderabad

Team MANAGE–FISHub participated in World Aquaculture (10–13 November 2025) in Hyderabad, showcasing its initiatives in nurturing aquapreneurs and agripreneurs through incubation, mentoring, and funding support under the RKVY-RAFTAAR scheme. The participation highlighted its role in strengthening innovation and entrepreneurship within the aquaculture and allied sectors.

During the exhibition, the team engaged with global startups, companies, and organizations to explore opportunities for collaboration and innovation in sustainable aquaculture. The event, held at Hi-Tech City, Hyderabad, and hosted by the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), brought together international delegates, ICAR officials, and State Fisheries Departments, serving as a valuable platform for knowledge exchange and partnership development.



MANAGE-FISHub at Aqua North East Summit 2025 - (12 December 2025)

MANAGE–Fisheries Innovation and Startup Hub (MANAGE–FISHub) was represented at the Aqua North East Summit 2025 by Ms. Usha Sree, Manager, Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA), MANAGE, who participated as a panel member in Theme Session 4 on “Government Schemes, Policies & Role of Fisheries Cooperatives to Boost Aquaculture in the Northeast.”

The panel discussion brought together representatives from key institutions such as the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), Department of Fisheries, and policy and cooperative bodies, focusing on strategies to strengthen aquaculture development in the North Eastern region.

During the interaction, particularly on PMMSY-linked initiatives, the role of MANAGE–FISHub in promoting fisheries entrepreneurship and innovation was highlighted. Key programmes and initiatives discussed included the Pre-Incubation Mentoring Programme, Aqua Eureka, MANAGE–FISHub Incubation Programme, Aqua Reach, Fisheries Stakeholder Connect Programme, and the Fisheries Fortnightly Friday Webinar (F3 Webinars). The session emphasized the importance of collaborative approaches between government schemes, cooperatives, and innovation ecosystems to accelerate sustainable aquaculture growth in the Northeast.



Participation of MANAGE–FISHub in Udyan Mahotsav (Udyan Utsav) 2026, Hyderabad

Team MANAGE–FISHub actively participated in Udyan Mahotsav (Udyan Utsav) 2026, held from 3–11 January 2026 at Rashtrapati Nilayam, Hyderabad, by establishing an exhibition stall to showcase its key initiatives under the RKVY-RAFTAAR scheme. The stall highlighted MANAGE–FISHub’s role in promoting aquapreneurship through incubation, mentoring, funding support, and capacity-building programmes. It also featured success stories of incubated startups, creating awareness among fishers, students, aspiring entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders about opportunities in the fisheries and aquaculture startup ecosystem.

During the event, MANAGE–FISHub actively engaged with visitors by disseminating information on its ongoing programmes, pre-incubation and incubation support, and startup facilitation services. The platform enabled direct interaction with a diverse audience, helping to strengthen outreach and foster interest in innovation-driven fisheries and aquaculture. Udyan Mahotsav 2026, a large-scale agriculture and horticulture festival, provided an effective avenue for MANAGE–FISHub to showcase its contributions and reinforce its commitment to advancing entrepreneurship and innovation in the fisheries sector.



MANAGE–FISHub at Matsya Mela, Lakshadweep 2026

MANAGE–FISHub participated in Matsya Mela 2026 held from January 10 to 12, 2026, through an exhibition stall. The team actively engaged with fishers, aquaculture farmers, youth, startups, SHGs, FFPOs, and other stakeholders, disseminating information on entrepreneurship programs, incubation support, and enterprise development opportunities in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. Matsya Mela 2026 was a three-day national-level fisheries event that facilitated Farmer–Scientist Interface sessions, stakeholder consultations, and exhibitions aimed at promoting sustainable fisheries, innovation, value addition, and entrepreneurship, particularly in island and coastal ecosystems.

The participation created strong awareness and interest in fisheries entrepreneurship, with senior officials and experts appreciating the outreach and impact of MANAGE–FISHub initiatives, and participants expressing demand for entrepreneurial skill development and enterprise-oriented programs. The event recorded over 30,000 footfalls across three days, providing MANAGE–FISHub with extensive grassroots reach, stakeholder networking, and a strategic platform to promote sustainable and enterprise-led fisheries development.



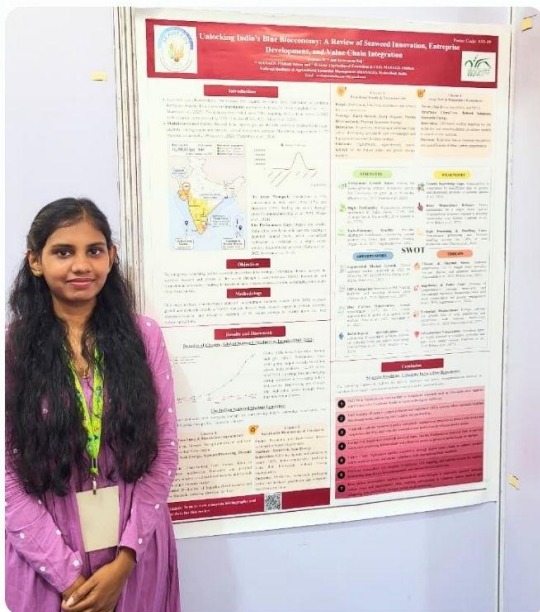
Report available online:

<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/Exhibition/Matsya%20Mela%202026%20-%20Lakshadweep%20Report.pdf>

MANAGE-FISHHub at S.E.A.W.E.E.D.S. 2026

The S.E.A.W.E.E.D.S. 2026 International Symposium on Seaweeds was organized by the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS), Kochi. The event served as a platform for knowledge exchange, innovation sharing, and collaboration in advancing the blue economy.

During the symposium, Archana R., MANAGE–FISHHub Intern, presented a poster under the theme “Advancing the Blue: Strategies for India’s Seaweed Sector,” titled “Unlocking India’s Blue Bioeconomy: A Review of Seaweed Innovation, Entrepreneurship Development, and Value Chain Integration.” And was awarded the Best Poster Presentation Award.



The presentation highlighted the emerging landscape of seaweed-based startups, innovation ecosystems, and the importance of strengthening value chain integration in India. It also emphasized opportunities for entrepreneurship development and sustainable livelihood generation within the sector.

The participation also provided an opportunity to create awareness about MANAGE–FISHHub initiatives among students, startup representatives, and seaweed farmers, including participants from Lakshadweep. The engagement facilitated networking, knowledge sharing, and strengthened outreach efforts, contributing to the promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship in the seaweed sector.



Social Media Initiatives

MANAGE–FISHub implemented targeted social media initiatives to strengthen outreach, knowledge dissemination, and stakeholder engagement within the fisheries and aquaculture ecosystem. The “Tech of the Week” series was developed as a technology repository to showcase proven and emerging fisheries innovations, promoting awareness of sustainable and inclusive technological solutions. In addition, the “Aqua Talk Podcast” was successfully completed, featuring Five startup founders who shared insights on innovation pathways, entrepreneurial journeys, and sectoral experiences.

Regular digital content dissemination was carried out through reposting of fisheries innovations, career opportunities, sector updates, highlights of MANAGE–FISHub programmes, and interactive polls to encourage stakeholder participation.

AQUA TALKS Podcast

AQUA TALKS Podcast is an initiative under MANAGE FISHub designed to create a dynamic knowledge-sharing platform for stakeholders in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. The podcast aims to disseminate practical insights, innovative technologies, and entrepreneurial experiences to farmers, startups, students, and industry professionals.

The sessions feature interactions with subject matter experts, aquapreneurs, and institutional leaders, focusing on key areas such as sustainable aquaculture practices, value addition, technology-driven farming systems, market linkages, and startup opportunities in fisheries.

The podcast is hosted by Dr. Nivedha C. K., Innovation Research Fellow, MANAGE FISHub, who facilitates meaningful discussions to bridge the gap between research, industry, and grassroots stakeholders. Through these conversations, the podcast highlights real-time challenges faced by farmers and presents actionable solutions and success stories.

AQUA TALKS serves as an effective extension and communication tool, enhancing awareness, capacity building, and promoting entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector. It contributes to strengthening the innovation ecosystem and supports the overall development of sustainable aquaculture practices.





Details of the Aqua Talks Podcast episodes, hosted under MANAGE-FISHub

S. No.	Podcast Title	Guest Name	YouTube Link
1	Fish to Crunch: The Value Added Story	Ms. Ch. Sowmya, Founder, Farmlynk	https://youtu.be/e1rL1EiDvIY
2	Aquadore: Beyond Traditional Seafood	Mr. Amit Patil, Founder & Director, Aquadore Ventures Pvt. Ltd.	https://youtu.be/_XCK6nsr6Ug
3	Nachu: Transforming Health with seaweed	Mr. Santhosh Donkina, Founder, Nachu	https://youtu.be/avInFAvuxJs
4	<i>Aquaclue: Smart ponds, Healthy fish</i>	Mrutyunjaya Das, Founder of Aquaclue	https://youtu.be/371ZQD7XnYo



5	<i>Marine X: Turning waste into wealth</i>	Mr. Sandipan Chakraborty	https://youtu.be/1HeHbk34CMg
6	<i>Aqua veritas: AI for Fish Health</i>	Mr. Eldho saji	https://youtu.be/h3MaKOkokQM
7	<i>Aqua maxima: Litter to glitter</i>	Mr. Hemasundar	https://youtu.be/o9BE--O6JEc
8	Solary oxy-Bicycle: Fish pond innovation:	Mr. Shubam patidar	https://youtu.be/QR9tfry0jI
9	Odaku: Smart tech for safer fishing	Mr Xavier Lawrance, Founder of Odaku	https://youtu.be/Qgss0jU0QpU
10	Machli Tech : Making Aquaculture smarter	Mr Kannan Founder	https://youtu.be/Ev4YHAuQZGQ
11	Game changer in Aquaculture: Fishy Farmers	Mr Sai Krishna teik, Founder, Fishy Farmers	https://youtu.be/qdOoTgG3qml
12	Eruvaka : Smart Aquaculture	Mr. Kunal Choudhary, CEO, Eruvaka	https://youtu.be/y2DuowX9YMQ
13	From Farm to Plate: Fresseafood pvt ltd	Mr Karthik gowda, Founder, Fresseafood Pvt Ltd	https://youtu.be/tyGjXG8kDw4
14	Sunbinak Advance system	Mr Arunkumar Gangatharan, Founder, Sunbinak Advance System	https://youtu.be/aY5-1n_1jFI
15	Building a Sustainable Fisheries Future: Udhay aqua connect	Mrs Bagyalakshmi, udhay aqua connects	https://youtu.be/ituo9RoT3Lk





16	Mud Crab Farming: India's Next Big Aquaculture	Dr Naveen Nivas, KUFOS	https://youtu.be/mlDdaHosykg
17	Pearl Farming=Profit ?Reality Revealed	Mr Ashok Manwani, Founder, India pearl company	https://youtu.be/lrQfvUCPCBg
18	<i>From vision to impact: A Women Transforming fisheries</i>	Dr Akhilamole Founder, Navaratna Matsya Sevana Kendram	https://youtu.be/XP4Y-8lo6zs
19	<i>Blue Wave Aquaculture: Farming the Future</i>	Mr Vatsal Agarwal, Co founder	https://youtu.be/Dzb0r_eqmn4
20	<i>Seaweed revolution: Future of Coastal Livelihoods</i>	Mr Akshay Jadhav Raftech solution pvt ltd	https://youtu.be/LIKSismNa8Y
21	AquaTalks with Mr Ashok Pillai	Mr Ashok Pillai Former Executive Director, NCDC	https://youtu.be/0MkwkDxeqXY
22	AquaTalks with Dr. Debtanu Barman	Dr. Debtanu Barman, Founder and CEO of Aqua Doctor Solutions	https://youtu.be/7-C4RbTSKSE





MANAGE–FISHub Website

The MANAGE–FISHub website provides application and registration links for MANAGE–FISHub programs. The portal contains program guidelines, brochures, and official notifications. The Resources section includes Fish Tech of the Week, an e-library, and startup knowledge updates comprising research articles and case studies, discussion papers and conference proceedings, manuals and toolkits, e-books and chapters, compendiums, and other reports and publications, along with webinar recordings, proceedings of stakeholder meetings, and program reports.

MANAGE–FISHub Website: <https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/>



MANAGE Fisheries Innovation and Startup Hub (MANAGE – FISHub)

(A National Fisheries Incubation Centre Supported by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India)

National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE)

(An Autonomous Organization of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)

Rajendranagar, Hyderabad – 500 030, Telangana, India