



MANAGE Internship: Cultivating Experiences for Future Professionals



A Journey of Growth, Learning, and Purpose at MANAGE

I am Archana R. from Tamil Nadu, and I have completed my M.F.Sc in Fisheries Extension from Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS). I completed a six-month internship with MANAGE-FISHub from October 6, 2025, to April 5, 2026".

 [Archana R](#)

“To succeed in life, we must stay within our strength zone but continually move outside our comfort zone.” - John C. Maxwell

The Beginning of a Meaningful Journey

The first three months of my internship were engaging and rewarding, as I quickly became involved in a variety of activities at MANAGE–FISHub. I coordinated programs such as Pre-incubation mentoring program for fisheries startups, Aqua eureka & physical mentoring program of cohort 1, managed social media, and contributed to content creation and documentation, while also working with speakers for the F3 Webinar Series, designing international program brochures, and gaining practical exposure through field visits and outreach activities.

[To read my earlier reflections:

<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/ManageFISHubInternship/Internship%20Note%201%20-%20Archana%20R.pdf>]

Overall, this phase was both enjoyable and enriching, helping me build confidence, develop new skills, and gain a clearer understanding of my role. Along the way, I was also fortunate to form meaningful friendships that made the experience even more memorable. It was a phase that not only shaped my professional growth but also left me with connections and experiences I will value for a long time.

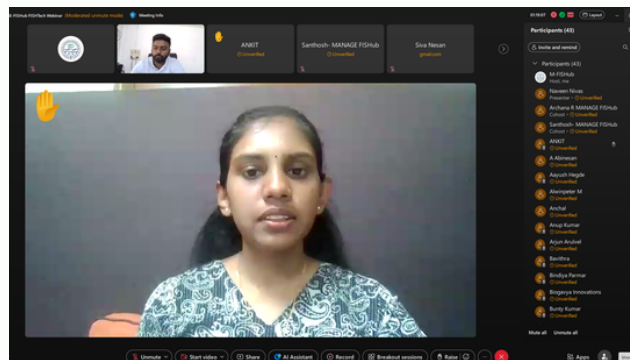


Coordination of FISHTech Webinar Series



As part of a new initiative by MANAGE–FISHub, I had the opportunity to coordinate the FISHTech Webinar Series along with my fellow intern, Ms. Kalaivani Alagarsamy in collaboration with the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (Kochi) from 21st to 30th January 2026. The series featured eight expert sessions, bringing valuable insights from domain specialists.

Being actively involved in coordinating the sessions and moderating the webinars not only strengthened my communication and facilitation skills but also enhanced my confidence in handling professional interactions. Additionally, taking responsibility for preparing speaker certificates helped me develop attention to detail and organizational skills. Overall, these experiences contributed significantly to my professional growth and readiness for future responsibilities.

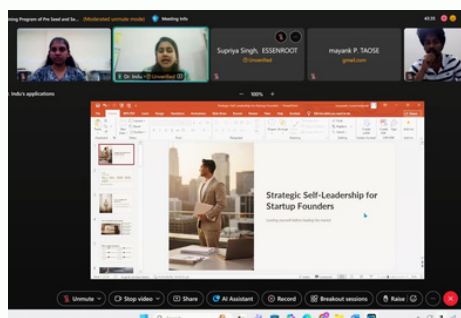


To watch the sessions:
<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/FISHTechWebinars.aspx>

Coordination of MANAGE-FISHub Incubation Program(Cohort 1)

I actively contributed to the MANAGE-FISHub Incubation Program (Cohort 1) by taking on the role of moderator for multiple online sessions, which significantly strengthened my communication, coordination, and facilitation skills while also exposing me to essential business and entrepreneurial concepts. My involvement extended to the CIC and SIC evaluation rounds, where I gained valuable hands-on experience in documenting proceedings, observing expert discussions, and understanding the key criteria used for startup selection, evaluation, and funding decisions.

Through these engagements, I was able to closely interact with diverse startup ideas and innovations in the agri and fisheries sectors, which provided me with deeper insights into emerging trends, priority focus areas, and the real-world challenges faced by startups in scaling their ventures. Overall, this experience proved to be highly enriching, enhancing both my practical understanding of the startup ecosystem and my professional competencies.



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



This experience not only enhanced my creative design and professional documentation skills but also strengthened my ability to manage multiple responsibilities efficiently under time constraints, contributing significantly to my overall professional development.

As part of the organizing team for the Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet & National Policy Workshop on Startups and Entrepreneurship in Fisheries held at MANAGE, Hyderabad, from 16–17 March 2026, I played an active role in supporting the event's successful execution. I contributed extensively by designing a wide range of communication materials, including banners, posters, ID cards, standees, and certificates, ensuring consistency and professionalism across all visual outputs. In addition, I was responsible for documenting the workshop proceedings, which required careful observation, structured writing, and timely compilation of key discussions and outcomes.



Fisheries Fortnightly Friday F3 Webinar Series

I moderated two sessions of the MANAGE-FISHub Fortnightly F3 Webinar Series—Webinar 15 on “Seaweed Farming: Business and Startup Opportunities” (27 February 2026) and Webinar 16 on “Pearl Culture: Business and Startup Opportunities” (13 March 2026). This experience significantly strengthened my communication and moderation skills while enhancing my confidence in managing live sessions and effectively engaging with speakers and participants.

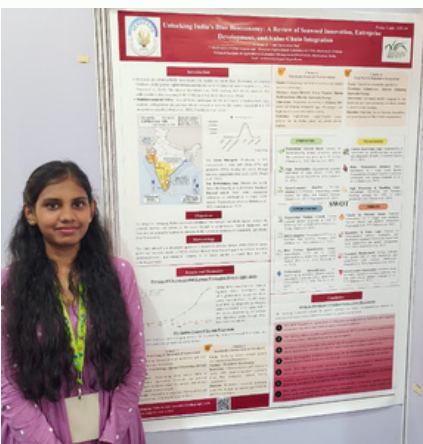
In addition to moderating, I also facilitated several other F3 webinars by delivering speaker introductions and preparing detailed webinar reports. These responsibilities further refined my professional communication, content organization, and documentation skills, contributing to my overall development in handling academic and industry-oriented virtual events.

[Watch the sessions: <https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/Webinars.aspx>].

S.E.A.W.E.E.D.S. 2026

I participated in the S.E.A.W.E.E.D.S. 2026 International Symposium on Seaweeds organized by KUFOS, Kochi, where I presented a poster titled “Unlocking India’s Blue Bioeconomy: A Review of Seaweed Innovation, Entrepreneurship Development, and Value Chain Integration” under the theme “Advancing the Blue: Strategies for India’s Seaweed Sector,” and was awarded the Best Poster Presentation Award.

The experience gave me valuable exposure to the seaweed innovation ecosystem, emerging startup trends, and opportunities in the blue economy. It also provided a platform to interact with students, startup representatives, and seaweed farmers, helping me contribute to outreach and awareness of MANAGE-FISHub initiatives while building meaningful professional connections.



MANAGE DIALOGUE

I contributed to the MANAGE Dialogue – International Workshop on the Future of Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services by designing a range of communication materials, including speaker posters, social media creatives, ID cards, certificates, and other event collaterals.

This experience provided me with valuable hands-on exposure to maintaining design consistency across multiple platforms, with careful attention to cohesive colour palettes, typography, layouts, and an overall visual identity appropriate for an international academic and policy-oriented event.

It also strengthened my ability to translate institutional requirements into professional visual outputs, enhancing both my creative skills and my understanding of branding in formal event settings.



I prepared the Annual Report of MANAGE-FISHub, which involved systematically compiling data, analyzing program activities, and presenting them in a clear, structured, and visually engaging format. This process required close coordination with different teams, attention to accuracy, and the ability to translate complex information into concise and impactful narratives. It significantly enhanced my skills in data-driven documentation, report writing, and the visual representation of information for diverse stakeholders.

In parallel, I continued managing the institute's social media platforms, where I curated and shared content related to fisheries updates, startup success stories, program highlights, and career opportunities. I focused on developing a consistent content strategy, improving post design and messaging, and aligning communication with the institute's objectives. This experience strengthened my skills in digital communication, content planning, and audience engagement.

Through sustained efforts in content optimization and strategic posting, I contributed to a substantial growth in the institute's LinkedIn presence, increasing followers from around 400 to over 3,700. Overall, these experiences enhanced my ability to integrate analytical thinking with creative communication, contributing to both institutional visibility and my professional development.

Cherishing Moments

One of my most cherished experiences was participating in the Udyan Mahotsav 2026, held at Rashtrapati Nilayam, the official winter retreat of the President of India. Being part of this prestigious 9-day horticulture and agriculture festival, I had the opportunity to engage with a diverse audience, share insights about MANAGE-FISHub's programs, and contribute to a vibrant platform, making it a truly memorable and fulfilling experience.



Another moment was sharing my internship journey through a podcast on Aqua Talks [Watch here: https://youtu.be/rZ_IL1pKJ-I]. Speaking about my experience from learning to doing gave me a chance to pause and reflect on how far I had come during my time at MANAGE-FISHub. It became a space to articulate my journey and the lessons I gathered along the way, while also allowing me to reflect on my professional growth and how my perspective had evolved through this experience.



As part of my internship, I was involved in visiting incubated startups and assessing their progress against defined milestones for funding disbursement. This experience gave me a practical understanding of how startup performance is evaluated and the importance of accountability in the incubation process. It helped me develop skills in critical observation, structured assessment, and presenting progress clearly, while also giving me insights into how startups navigate challenges and work towards their goals.



One of the most defining moments of my internship was the opportunity to interact with Shri Sanjay K. Agarwal, IAS, Joint Secretary (Extension), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, and Director General of MANAGE. During this interaction, I expressed my interest in extending my internship by three months. When asked about my motivation, I explained my commitment to completing several ongoing responsibilities and contributing more meaningfully to the organization.



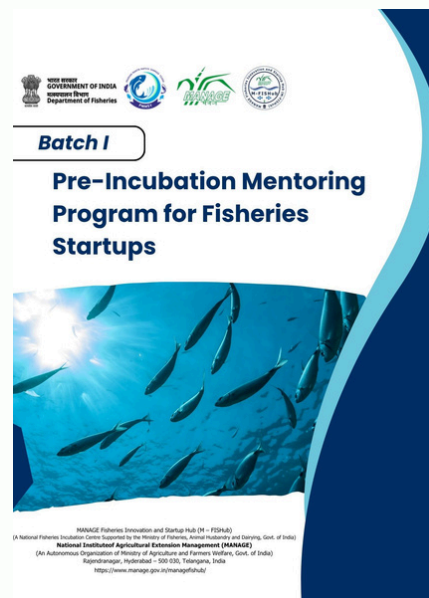


Although the extension process took nearly a month, I remained consistent in my efforts by continuing to contribute as a volunteer during this period. This phase reflected my perseverance, dedication, and strong sense of responsibility, as I stayed engaged with my work without losing focus or motivation. Ultimately, this experience became a significant learning moment, reinforcing the importance of commitment, patience, and professional integrity.

Skills and Knowledge Gained

I also contributed significantly to report writing, including the Pre-Incubation Mentoring Program for Fisheries Startups report (Click here to read: https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishhub/Report_Pre-Incubation_Mentoring_Program_for_Fisheries_Startups.pdf).

This experience strengthened my ability to systematically compile, analyze, and present information in a structured and professional manner. Through this process, I developed greater attention to detail and improved my skills in documenting program outcomes effectively.

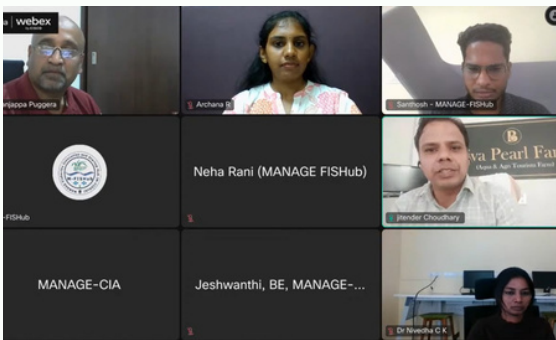


At the same time, I gained a deeper understanding of the startup and incubation ecosystem through active involvement in program coordination, startup monitoring, and evaluation processes. I learned how to track startup progress against defined milestones, assess performance, and present insights in a clear and concise way for reporting and decision-making purposes.

Overall, these experiences enhanced not only my technical and analytical skills but also boosted my confidence, helping me develop a more practical, organized, and refined professional approach to my work. They also improved my ability to manage responsibilities efficiently, communicate ideas more effectively, and adapt to dynamic work environments. Additionally, I developed a stronger sense of accountability and attention to detail, which has further strengthened my ability to contribute meaningfully in professional settings.

Takeaways and Action Plans

This internship profoundly shaped my understanding of what it truly means to work with purpose, responsibility, and commitment in a professional environment. It taught me the importance of being proactive, adaptable, and consistent, while approaching every task with clarity, discipline, and a strong sense of ownership. Working in a dynamic setting required me to balance multiple responsibilities, meet deadlines, and continuously learn that strengthened both my work ethic and professional mindset.



This journey helped me grow in terms of interpersonal communication, teamwork, and confidence in handling diverse responsibilities. Whether it was coordinating sessions, interacting with stakeholders, designing communication materials, or documentation, each experience contributed to building a holistic understanding of organizational functioning.

As I move forward, I carry with me not just a set of acquired skills, but a more grounded, confident, and professional approach to my work. I aim to further strengthen my abilities in coordination, content creation, and documentation, while continuing to refine my analytical thinking, creativity, and presentation skills.



I am also motivated to explore more opportunities where I can apply these learnings in meaningful ways, particularly in areas related to extension, communication, and development-oriented initiatives. As I move forward, I carry with me not just a set of acquired skills, but a more grounded, confident, and professional approach to my work. I aim to further strengthen my abilities in coordination, content creation, and documentation, while continuing to refine my analytical thinking, creativity, and presentation skills.



I am deeply grateful to MANAGE–FISHub and Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE & CEO, MANAGE–FISHub, for this internship opportunity. I sincerely thank our Director for his constant mentoring, guidance, and encouragement, which have been a true source of inspiration and have greatly shaped my professional growth. His professional journey and dedication have been a constant source of inspiration, and his insights and constructive feedback have played a significant role in shaping my learning experience and overall professional growth. The exposure and supportive learning environment at MANAGE–FISHub played a key role in bridging the gap between academic knowledge and practical application, while instilling a strong sense of direction and purpose in my journey. Overall, this journey has been both enriching and transformative, equipping me with valuable skills, meaningful experiences, and a clearer sense of direction for my future. As I move forward, I carry these learnings with a strong commitment to continuous growth and purposeful action, striving to build on this foundation and contribute positively in every opportunity I undertake.

I am also grateful for the opportunity to extend my tenure by an additional three months, and I look forward to utilising this period effectively by taking on greater responsibilities, contributing more meaningfully, and further strengthening my professional capabilities while adding value to the organization.

“Learning, applying, and evolving with every opportunity”

Ms. Archana R
MANAGE-FISHub Intern
e-mail: archanaramalingam18@gmail.com

MANAGE-Fisheries Innovation and Startup Hub(MANAGE-FISHub)
National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE)
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad- 500 030, INDIA
<https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/>