MANAGE Internship:
Cultivating Experiences for Future Professionals



From Theory to Transformation: Reflection on my MANAGE Internship

Hello Everyone, I am Mahiwal Singh from Jodhpur, Rajasthan
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Mahiwal Singh

Internship Experience: A Journey of Learning, Responsibility and Growth

"Every new responsibility is an opportunity to transform learning into impact."

The continuation of the second phase of my internship at MANAGE–FISHub has been a journey of learning, adaptation, and professional growth. The initial months involved familiarising myself with the institutional work culture and understanding organisational processes. Through hands-on exposure to programme coordination, stakeholder engagement, documentation, communication, and administrative activities, I gradually strengthened my skills, confidence, and understanding of how ideas are translated into meaningful outcomes. Interactions with experts and diverse stakeholders further broadened my professional perspective and provided valuable insights into the startup's and innovation ecosystem.

This journey has been truly transformative. Having my own workspace, responsibilities, and opportunities to contribute has been a dream come true-something I had long aspired to do during eleven continuous years of higher education. Taking a break from my Ph.D. proved worthwhile, as my experience at MANAGE–FISHub broadened my understanding of the startup's and innovation ecosystem which provided valuable clarity on the direction of my research. More than an internship, this experience has been a defining step in my professional journey, shaping me into a more confident, capable, and purpose-driven agricultural extension professional.



"A memorable evening of learning, reflection, and experience-sharing with the Director General of MANAGE."

Professional Learning and Experience During the Second Quarter: My MANAGE–FISHub Internship

Strategic Communication and Digital Content Development

Strengthened my skills in developing strategic content, promotional materials, and digital creatives to communicate institutional initiatives and promote fisheries entrepreneurship, innovation, and startup development.

Documentation, Reporting, and Proposal Development

Enhanced my professional writing and analytical skills through preparing official records, activity reports, programme summaries, proposals, and correspondence, recognising their role in institutional accountability, knowledge management, and informed decision-making.

Startup Database Management and Ecosystem Mapping

Gained practical experience in compiling, organising, and updating databases of fisheries startups, entrepreneurs, experts, and stakeholders, improving my understanding of networking, institutional outreach, and ecosystem development.

Institutional Coordination and Stakeholder Engagement

Developed a deeper understanding of institutional procedures and professional coordination while interacting with entrepreneurs, scientists, government officials, and institutional partners, strengthening my communication, teamwork, and relationship-building skills.

Professional Growth and Agricultural Extension Linkages

Enhanced my time management, adaptability, and ability to take ownership of responsibilities while connecting my academic background in Agricultural Extension with innovation incubation, entrepreneurship development, knowledge dissemination, and scaling sustainable innovations.

From Planning to Execution: Delivering Impact Through Coordination

The journey involved end-to-end coordination of stakeholder engagement initiatives, beginning with programme conceptualisation and proposal development, followed by institutional liaison, stakeholder mobilisation, logistical planning, and execution. The successful organisation of fisheries stakeholder programmes in Rajasthan and Punjab required continuous coordination with institutional partners, government officials, experts, entrepreneurs, and farmers. From initial planning to on-ground implementation and post-event documentation, each stage strengthened operational efficiency, stakeholder participation, and collaborative engagement, translating planned activities into successful institutional outcomes.



Contributed to the implementation of Fisheries Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (FEDP) across Punjab and Rajasthan, supporting the coordination and execution of Aqua Yuva, Aqua Udhyami, and Aqua Reach initiatives. Responsibilities included stakeholder coordination, participant mobilisation, logistical arrangements, institutional liaison, and programme documentation, facilitating engagement among aspiring youth, aquapreneurs, fisheries officials, and farmers to promote entrepreneurship, innovation, and sustainable growth in the fisheries sector.





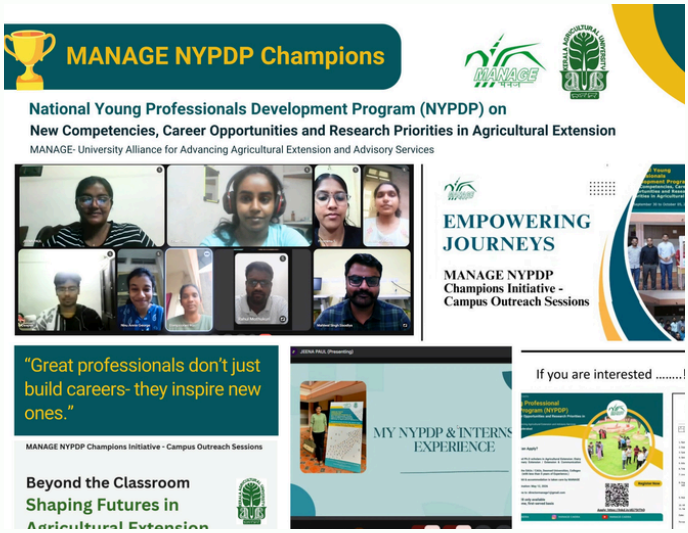
"Glimpses of Fisheries Stakeholder Meets and Fisheries Entrepreneurship Development Programmes at MPUAT, Udaipur, and GADVASU, Ludhiana"

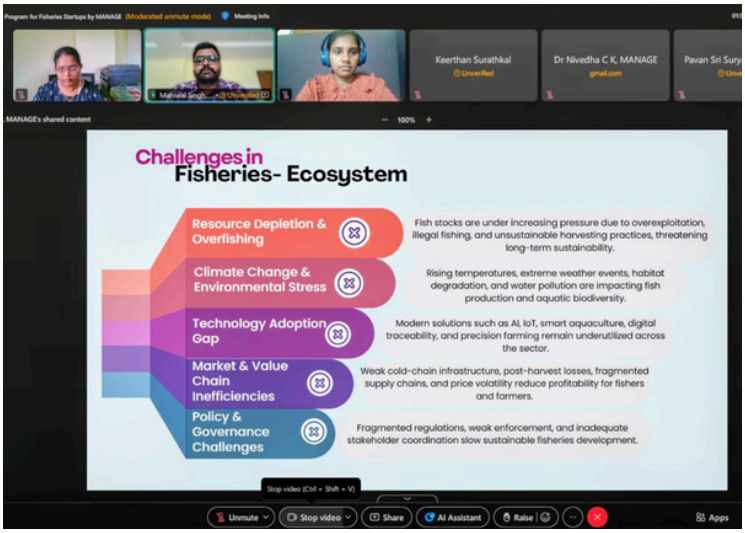
Program Report:

Rajasthan: https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/images/Inernship/Rajasthan-stakeholder-report.pdf
Punjab: https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/images/Inernship/ReportonFisheries%20Startup%20&%20Aquapreneurship%20Stakeholders%20Meet-Panjab.pdf

Communication & Outreach

Supported communication, outreach, and promotional activities for NYPDP and various MANAGE–FISHub programmes by coordinating with institutions, engaging stakeholders, and disseminating programme information through digital platforms and professional networks. These efforts enhanced programme visibility, encouraged participation, and strengthened my communication, networking, and stakeholder engagement skills.





Driving Fisheries Innovation Through F3 & FISHTech Webinar Series

Actively coordinated and facilitated the MANAGE–FISHub Fortnightly F3 (Fisheries Fortnightly Friday) Webinar Series and the FishTECH Webinar Series, organised in collaboration with ICAR–CMFRI. Contributed to speaker coordination, webinar logistics, resource person introductions, and participant engagement, connecting experts from academia, industry, government, and the startup ecosystem. These initiatives strengthened my expertise in knowledge dissemination, professional networking, and promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector.

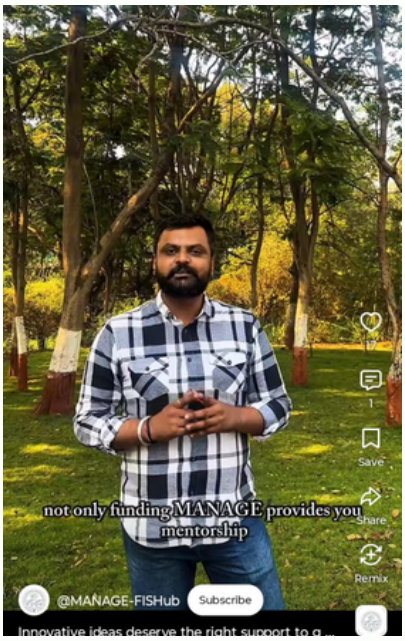




Learning the Art of Digital Storytelling: Turning Ideas into Impact

Contributed to developing promotional videos for MANAGE–FISHub's flagship programmes, transforming programme objectives and opportunities into engaging digital stories. These videos helped expand outreach, enhance programme visibility, and connect with a wider audience of aspiring entrepreneurs, students, farmers, and fisheries stakeholders. This experience strengthened my skills in digital communication, creative content development, and audience engagement.







Fostering a Dynamic Learning Environment

Being part of MANAGE–FISHub provided a dynamic learning environment that encouraged continuous learning, teamwork, and professional growth. Interactions with mentors, experts, entrepreneurs, and institutional stakeholders broadened my understanding of fisheries innovation, entrepreneurship, and startup development. Collaborative assignments, programme coordination, and knowledge-sharing opportunities helped me strengthen my problem-solving, communication, and coordination skills while gaining practical insights into managing innovation-driven initiatives.



Fun Moments with My Tribe: Bonds Beyond Work

Beyond professional learning, my journey at MANAGE has been enriched by the wonderful people across MANAGE-CAEIRA, MANAGE-CIA, and MANAGE–FISHub. From shared laughter and team celebrations to everyday interactions and unforgettable memories, these moments have fostered friendships, strengthened teamwork, and created a true sense of belonging. Grateful for the people who made this journey not just a learning experience, but a collection of memories to cherish forever!





Leading Exposure Visits: Connecting Startups with Innovation Ecosystems

Led exposure visits to T-Hub, Hyderabad, and Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR for Cohort 15 of MANAGE-CIA and Cohort 2 of MANAGE–FISHub, providing participants with valuable exposure to startup incubation, innovation, entrepreneurship, and business development ecosystems. Coordinated the visits to facilitate interactions, experiential learning, and knowledge exchange, helping participants explore new opportunities for startup growth, collaboration, and scaling.





My NYPDP P.L.U.S. Journey at MANAGE: From Learning to Leadership and Professional Growth

Participating in NYPDP P.L.U.S. on Research Methodology at MANAGE enhanced my understanding of research planning, impact assessment, indicator development, and outcome-based evaluation. The programme introduced me to practical approaches and techniques that will directly support my Ph.D. research on Sustainability Analysis for Scaling Up of Farmer-Led Innovation. As I transition from my MANAGE internship back to my doctoral research, these learnings will help me strengthen my research methodology, assess innovation outcomes more effectively, and generate evidence-based insights for sustainable agricultural development.







From Hesitation to Confidence: Finding My Voice at MANAGE

My MANAGE–FISHub internship has been a transformative journey in building my confidence, communication, and public-speaking skills. Opportunities to host sessions, introduce eminent speakers, moderate webinars, coordinate national-level programmes, and interact with diverse audiences helped me gradually overcome hesitation and become more confident on stage. Working closely with senior officials, subject-matter experts, entrepreneurs, and institutional stakeholders taught me to communicate with clarity, think on my feet, and engage audiences effectively.



Every stage interaction, webinar, and programme became an opportunity to learn, improve, and discover my potential. The encouragement of my mentors and the trust placed in me to take responsibility further strengthened my self-belief and leadership abilities.



MANAGE did not just give me professional exposure; it helped me find my voice, trust my abilities, and develop the confidence to face any stage and audience with purpose. These skills will remain invaluable as I return to my Ph.D. research, academic presentations, seminars, and future professional engagements.

Celebrating My Special Day with Special People at a Special Place — Memories to Cherish Forever !!

Celebrating my birthday at MANAGE with our Director, my fellow participants of NYPDP, and office colleagues made the day truly memorable. Beyond the celebrations, it was the warmth, encouragement, and togetherness that made this occasion so special. MANAGE has given me far more than professional learning and opportunities; it has given me meaningful relationships, cherished memories, and a sense of belonging. Some places become special not just because of what we achieve there, but because of the people and memories we leave with and MANAGE will always hold a special place in my heart.





A Workplace That Inspires: Experiencing a Positive Work Culture at MANAGE

The work culture at MANAGE is truly exceptional, fostering collaboration, mutual respect, continuous learning, and professional growth. The supportive environment, approachable mentors, and opportunities to take initiative have made my internship journey both enriching and rewarding. Working alongside dedicated professionals across MANAGE-CAEIRA, MANAGE-CIA, and MANAGE–FISHub has taught me the value of teamwork, responsibility, and shared learning. At MANAGE, it is not just about working together; it is about growing together, inspiring one another, and creating meaningful impact.





Thank you MANAGE-FISHub !!

Reflecting on my internship at MANAGE–FISHub, I realise it has offered far more than professional exposure it has transformed the way I approach responsibility, communication, leadership, and collaboration. What began as an opportunity to contribute to fisheries entrepreneurship and startup development evolved into a journey of meaningful experiences across programme coordination, stakeholder outreach, webinar facilitation, digital storytelling, promotional video production, exposure visits, institutional networking, and startup documentation. From coordinating flagship programmes to engaging with experts, entrepreneurs, and diverse audiences, every responsibility pushed me beyond my comfort zone and strengthened my confidence. The supportive work culture, mentorship, and collaborative environment across MANAGE–CAEIRA, MANAGE-CIA, and MANAGE–FISHub made this journey even more enriching. Above all, this experience has shaped my professional outlook, enhanced my leadership abilities, and equipped me with practical insights that I will carry forward into my Ph.D. research and future career.

I am sincerely grateful to Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE & CEO, MANAGE-FISHub, for his inspiring leadership, constant guidance, and trust throughout my internship. My heartfelt thanks to Dr. Raahalya S for her invaluable mentorship and continuous support throughout my internship journey. I also extend my sincere appreciation to my fellow interns and the entire MANAGE–FISHub, MANAGE-CIA, and MANAGE–CAEIRA teams for their encouragement, cooperation, and camaraderie, which made this journey truly enriching and memorable.

A special note of gratitude to my Ph.D. Advisor, Dr. Mercykutty M. J., Prof. & Head, Dept. of Agril. Extension, CoA, Vellanikkara, KAU, Thrissur, Kerala for believing in me and allowing me to pursue this internship during my doctoral journey. Her trust and support gave me the opportunity to step beyond academia, gain valuable professional experience, and develop skills that will strengthen both my research and future career. I will always be thankful to everyone who contributed to this transformative chapter of my life, leaving me with invaluable lessons, meaningful relationships, and memories to cherish for years to come.

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