भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
मत्स्यपालन विभाग
Department of Fisheries

December 2025

Fisheries-StartUp and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet

Connect. Collaborate. Catalyse

December 19, 2025

IFPGS, Vaniyanchavadi, Chennai

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
https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/

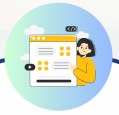
MANAGE

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 (https://www.manage.gov.in).

MANAGE-FISHub

MANAGE-Fisheries Innovation and Startup Hub **(MANAGE-FISHub)** is a national- level incubation and innovation platform established at the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, in 2025 with the support of the Department of Fisheries (DoF), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAHD), Government of India. MANAGE-FISHub aims to transform India's fisheries and aquaculture sector through innovation, entrepreneurship, and ecosystem development by mentoring and promoting fisheries startups, creating employment and entrepreneurial opportunities aligned with national priorities, and enabling the rapid commercialization of technologies emerging from research, academia, and individual innovators. (https://www.manage.gov.in/managefishub/)

Our Programs



MANAGE-FISHub Pre-Incubation Program

MANAGE-FISHub Incubation Program

MANAGE Aqua Eureka Program

MANAGE-FISHub Fortnightly Friday (F3) Webinars

MANAGE-FISHub Internship Program

MANAGE-FISHub AquaReach

Fisheries-Startup & Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet

TNJFU

Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University (TNJFU) is the apex institution in Tamil Nadu dedicated exclusively to fisheries education, research, and extension. Established in 2012 and headquartered in Nagapattinam, the University aims to strengthen the fisheries and aquaculture sector through skilled human resource development, innovative research, and technology dissemination. Comprising eleven constituent colleges, TNJFU offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in fisheries science, fisheries engineering, biotechnology, food technology, and allied disciplines. Accredited by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and University Grants Commission (UGC), the University fosters entrepreneurship, blue economy development, and sustainable fisheries management through its network of research stations, training centers, and outreach programs. (https://www.tnjfu.ac.in/index)

Objectives

01. To impart quality professional education in different branches of Fisheries Sciences

02. To conduct organized research in frontier areas with the objective of developing cutting edge technologies in Fisheries Sciences

03. To generate high quality professionals in Fisheries Sciences

04. To facilitate comprehensive development of Fisheries Sciences for increased contribution to State economy

05. To provide extension services like training, consultancy, project formulation to fish farmers, fisherfolk, unemployed youth and entrepreneurs in Fisheries Sciences

06. To create better opportunities for marketing and value addition of fish and fishery products

About the Program

The Fisheries-StartUp and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet aims to bring together all key stakeholders of India's fisheries and aquaculture ecosystem on a single collaborative platform and bridge the information gap, by facilitating a seamless exchange of knowledge, resources, and partnership opportunities among them.

The program aims to strengthen the fisheries entrepreneurship landscape by fostering innovation, collaboration, and value-chain integration. It provides startups with opportunities to showcase innovations, connect with partners, and learn from successful ventures. By facilitating dialogue and partnerships, the program seeks to build an inclusive ecosystem that accelerates sustainable growth, technological adoption, and blue economy development.

Who Can Attend?

- Fisheries Startups & Aquapreneurs
- Aspiring Aquapreneurs
- Fisheries Incubators, Accelerators & Innovation Hubs
- Fishers & Fish Farmers
- Fisheries Students & Researchers
- Financial & Funding Organisations
- Academic & Research Institutes
- Fisheries & Allied Industries
- FFPOs, Cooperatives & SHG's
- Policy Makers
- NGO's & Extension Functionaries
- Other Stakeholders in the Fisheries Startup Ecosystem

Objectives

- **Connect in Single Platform:** Bring all fisheries startup stakeholders together to enable seamless interaction, access, and engagement on one unified platform
- **Build Networks:** Facilitate connections between aquapreneurs, researchers, and industry stakeholders to strengthen the fisheries innovation ecosystem.
- **Promote Collaboration :** Encourage partnerships between academia and industry to address real-world challenges and explore new opportunities in fisheries.
- **Share Knowledge :** Provide a platform for exchanging insights, strategies, and technological advancements relevant to fisheries 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

Key Takeaways

Build Networks

Meet individuals who can potentially become business partners, clients, mentors, or collaborators.

Gain Visibility

Showcase your products and technologies toa relevant audience, increasing your visibility within the local business community.

Learning & Exposure

Gain insights from Fisheries-Startup Stakeholders through Networking, Talks and Discussions

Forge New Partnerships

Facilitate collaborations and discover opportunities for joint ventures, partnerships, or projects that align with your objectives.

Discover New Opportunities

Engage with innovators, experts, and institutions to explore emerging trendsand startup opportunities in the fisheries sector.

Program Background

MANAGE proposed a collaboration with Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University (TNJFU) to conduct the first edition of the Fisheries Startup & Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet in Tamil Nadu. Following acceptance from the university authorities, the program was scheduled and successfully conducted on 19th December 2025 at the Institute of Fisheries Post Graduate Studies (IFPGS), Vaniyanchavadi, Chennai.

The organising team for the program comprised members from both institutions. From MANAGE, the team included Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE, and Mr. Santhosh Kumar, MANAGE-FISHub Intern. From TNJFU, the organising team included Dr. A. Gopalakannan, Director of Extension Education (i/c), TNJFU, and Dr. A. Uma, Dean, Institute of Fisheries Postgraduate Studies (IFPGS).

A list of proposed stakeholders from the fisheries startup ecosystem of Tamil Nadu was prepared, and invitation mails were sent to fisheries startups, aquapreneurs, fishers, fish farmers, producer organizations, research institutions, industry players, service providers, and fisheries colleges and allied institutes. The registration link for the program was circulated through MANAGE-FISHub and institutional social media platforms.

The program schedule was designed to include an inaugural session, followed by technical sessions comprising startup experience sharing, technology demonstrations, startup pitching, exhibition and networking, and concluding with a valedictory session.

A total of 210 participants registered for the program, including startups, students, faculty members, and other professionals. Confirmation mails were sent to all registered participants, and they were requested to join a WhatsApp group created for further communication and coordination.

Among the startups that expressed interest in pitching and exhibition, a screening process was undertaken, following which 6 startups were shortlisted for the pitching session and 4 startups were shortlisted for the exhibition.

The program, conducted at the Institute of Fisheries Post Graduate Studies Auditorium, was attended by 146 participants, including 10 dignitaries who graced the dais, 76 representatives from fisheries startups and aquapreneurial ventures across Tamil Nadu, 50 students from various fisheries colleges in and around Tamil Nadu, and 20 professionals, including faculty members, officials from state fisheries and allied departments, consultants, managers, engineers, and technicians.

Inaugural Session

Dr. A. Gopalakannan

Director of Extension Education (i/c)
TNJFU

Dr. Gopalakannan delivered the welcome address and outlining the objectives and significance of the Fisheries-Startup & Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet. The address highlighted the program's focus on strengthening fisheries entrepreneurship through innovation, collaboration, and value-chain integration.

The session emphasized that the platform enables fisheries startups and aquapreneurs to showcase innovations, connect with partners, and learn from successful ventures, while facilitating dialogue and partnerships that support sustainable growth, technological adoption, and blue economy development.

He further highlighted that the meet aims to bring together key stakeholders of India's fisheries and aquaculture ecosystem on a single collaborative platform, bridging information gaps and enabling the exchange of knowledge, resources, and partnership opportunities, and concluded with a warm welcome to all dignitaries and participants.

"Building fisheries entrepreneurship requires collaboration, innovation, and a strong value-chain ecosystem".

-Dr. A. Gopalakannan

Inaugural Session

Dr. Saravanan Raj, delivered a session on “About the Program and Activities of MANAGE-FISHub”, highlighting the vast opportunities in the fisheries sector and the growing role of innovation and startups in shaping the future of fisheries and aquaculture.

He introduced the stakeholders about the MANAGE-FISHub, a national-level fisheries innovation and startup hub launched in 2025 under the Department of Fisheries and hosted at MANAGE, aimed at fostering entrepreneurship and ecosystem development.

The session emphasized how grassroots problem identification can drive meaningful innovation, illustrated through an example of an IoT and AI-based Bird Detection and Deterrent device for shrimp farms, developed by a shrimp farmer’s daughter based on real farm-level challenges. The address reinforced the message that fisheries entrepreneurship thrives when innovation is rooted in practical field realities.

Dr. Saravanan Raj
Director (Agricultural Extension)
MANAGE

“The Future of Fisheries lies in Startups, Aquapreneurs, and Students who are ready to innovate and facilitate innovations and services to the fishers”.

–Dr. Saravanan Raj

Inaugural Session

Dr. R. Narayanakumar

Principal Scientist & Scientist In Charge
ICAR- CMFRI
Madras Regional Station

Dr. R. Narayana Kumar delivered a session on **"Emerging Startups in the Marine Fisheries Sector in India"**, highlighting the vast entrepreneurial opportunities in marine fisheries and the growing scope for startups across production, value addition, and service-oriented activities.

He emphasized marine fisheries as a high-potential sector for sustainable livelihoods, coastal entrepreneurship, and blue economy development.

The session discussed diverse startup domains including mariculture, cage farming, bivalve farming, seaweed culture, ornamental fisheries, aquaculture tourism, processing, and marketing, supported by SHGs and micro-enterprises. The address reinforced the message that economically viable and scalable startup models can significantly strengthen the marine fisheries value chain while promoting sustainability and inclusiveness.

"Marine fisheries is not just about harvesting fish; It is about transforming the ocean into opportunity".

-Dr. R. Narayanakumar

Inaugural Session

Dr. P. K. Patil delivered a session on "**Aquaculture Innovation Pathways in Brackishwater & Freshwater Systems: Startup Prospects Enabled by CIBA Technologies**", highlighting the need to institutionalize startup culture within fisheries education through collaboration among academic institutions, research organizations, and innovation hubs.

He further emphasized that fisheries colleges can serve as breeding grounds for entrepreneurship, enabling students to transition from education to enterprise creation.

The session proposed a structured pathway for fisheries students, where undergraduate students can pitch startup ideas, with selected candidates gaining entry into startup-oriented postgraduate programs, along with access to funding, mentorship, and technical guidance and to build a collaborative ecosystem, were ICAR- CIBA will be assisting in mentorship, and technology transfer, thus strengthening startup–expert linkages.

Dr. P.K. Patil
Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIBA

"Integrating startup culture into fisheries education is key to building a sustainable innovation ecosystem".

–Dr. P.K. Patil

Inaugural Session

Mr. P. Pradeepkumar
Deputy Director (Mariculture)
Tamil Nadu Department of
Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare

Mr. P. Pradeepkumar, delivered a session on **"Government Schemes and Institutional Support for Promoting Entrepreneurship in the Fisheries Sector"**, highlighting the gradual transition of fisheries development from a welfare-oriented approach to an entrepreneurship-driven model, supported by various schemes under PMMSY.

He emphasized that increasing numbers of fishers and fish farmers are now entering entrepreneurship, creating new opportunities across the sector.

He stressed the importance of close collaboration between research institutions and the Fisheries Department to enable effective technology transfer and to design schemes that are practically beneficial to fish farmers, and highlighted the role of the Government of Tamil Nadu, through StartupTN, in promoting entrepreneurship across the state and addressing funding constraints, reinforcing that innovation, courage and confidence are key to entrepreneurial success.

"Opportunities are plenty; What matters most is the courage and confidence to choose entrepreneurship".

-Mr. P. Pradeepkumar

Inaugural Session

Mr. Murugan Chidambaram delivered a session on **" Digital Transformation of the Fisheries Value Chain: Opportunities for Tech-Enabled Startups"**, shared insights from a technology-to-fisheries transition, highlighting fisheries as a sector of continuous learning, innovation, and problem-solving.

He further emphasized that while process and technology are important, meaningful impact begins with understanding people and their challenges.

He highlighted that fisheries entrepreneurship is rooted in sustainability rather than profit alone, with innovation opportunities existing across the entire value chain. Drawing from Aquaconnect's experience of working with diverse stakeholders, the address reinforced the message that entrepreneurship is fundamentally about solving real-world problems, with impact, scale, and success following naturally.

Mr. Murugan Chidambaram
Chief Technology Officer
Aquaconnect

"Entrepreneurship begins by solving problems; Impact, Sustainability, and Success will follow".

-Mr. Murugan Chidambaram

Inaugural Session

Dr. N. Felix
Vice Chancellor, TNJFU

Dr. N. Felix, delivered an address highlighting the rapid growth and economic significance of India's fisheries sector, emphasizing its emergence as a sunrise sector.

He addressed the doubling of fish production over the past decade, strong growth in inland fisheries, rising per capita consumption, and the sector's increasing contribution to national GDP and agricultural GVA.

Dr. Felix highlighted startup opportunities across the fisheries value chain, supported by national initiatives such as Blue Revolution, PMMSY, PMKSY, and FIDF, and emphasized TNJFU's role in promoting fisheries entrepreneurship through incubation support, technology commercialization, public–private partnerships, and a network of centers across Tamil Nadu.

He reinforced that innovative use of available resources and technologies is critical for driving startups, production growth, and economic development.

"When technology becomes self-reliant, startups grow; When startups grow, production and the economy follows".

–Dr. N. Felix

Technical Session

Mr. Vasukumar Nair, Founder, Vridhi Techno Farms, delivered a session highlighting the vision of building a resilient and innovative food ecosystem, aimed at transforming how society perceives and consumes fish as one of the most misunderstood superfoods.

Emphasizing the idea, “What your food should be – Safe / Fresh?”, the address focused on repositioning fish from being perceived as smelly and unhygienic to a clean, nutritious, and consumer-friendly food choice.

He highlighted that modern consumers increasingly prioritize traceability, transparency, health consciousness, and trust in their food. To address these expectations, his enterprise “Vridhi Techno Farms “, is developing a robust cold chain system to ensure quality, safety, and freshness, while enabling odourless, hygienic, and convenient doorstep delivery, adopting a consumer-first approach to reshape food safety, nutrition, and trust within the fisheries sector.

Mr. Vasukumar Nair

Founder & CEO
Vridhi Techno Farms Pvt. Ltd.

“What your food should be – Safe / Fresh?”.

-Mr. Vasukumar Nair

Technical Session

Dr. M. Srinivasan

Founder & CEO
Bharath Rhino Biotech Pvt. Ltd.

Dr. M. Srinivasan, explained the true essence of a startup, emphasizing that startups must be innovative, novel, and scalable in nature.

He elaborated on the core philosophy of the meet, Collaborate, Connect, and Catalyze, and stressed the importance of planning before developing technology, ensuring that innovation is aligned with real needs and market relevance.

Dr. Srinivasan Why Startups Matter, emphasizes the extensive support provided by the government through initiatives such as AC&ADP schemes and StartupTN, which together create a strong enabling ecosystem.

Sharing personal experience as a startup incubated at MANAGE, he emphasized that institutions play a critical role as mentors and enablers in the startup journey, nurturing early-stage ideas like seeds and supporting their growth into sustainable enterprises through continuous guidance and ecosystem support.

"A startup begins with innovation, grows with scalability, and succeeds through collaboration".

-Dr. M. Srinivasan

Startups Exhibition and Networking

Following the conclusion of the Technical Session, a Startup Exhibition was held at the venue, where selected fisheries and allied-sector startups showcased their innovative products, technologies, and business models. The exhibition was actively visited by dignitaries, speakers, officials, experts, and participants present at the program.

The startups presented a wide range of innovations, including aquaculture probiotic solutions, fisheries export services, post-harvest value-added solutions, sustainable packaging solutions, animal feed innovations, and integrated digital platforms that support fisheries operations and sustainability.

During the exhibition, dignitaries and stakeholders engaged directly with startup founders, appreciated their innovations, and offered valuable feedback and suggestions for further refinement and scaling.

The exhibition functioned as an effective platform for startups to demonstrate their solutions, gain visibility, and explore collaboration and partnership opportunities, while promoting knowledge exchange and networking fisheries ecosystem stakeholders.

Startup Pitching Session

Mr. Shaik Karimulla
Kareem Agro Farms

Problem: Overdependence on shrimp farming has exposed aquaculture farmers to price volatility, disease outbreaks, and income instability. Traditional commodity-based aquaculture limits profitability and poses biosecurity and market risks.

Solution: The startup promotes high-value exotic aquaculture by farming species such as Wallago attu, Tilapia, Pearl spot, and Murrels using advanced RAS and Biofloc systems. This diversified production model ensures sustainable farming with higher margins and reduced risk.

Innovation: Focus on premium exotic species with strong domestic and export demand, combined with advanced water recirculation technologies, traceability, and sustainability practices. The model integrates technology-driven precision farming with ecosystem protection.

Business Model: The enterprise targets premium domestic seafood markets and export destinations including the Middle East, EU, and Southeast Asia. Leveraging Nellore's aquaculture infrastructure, cold chain logistics, and export connectivity, the model ensures scalable and high-value market access.

Challenges: High initial investment for advanced systems, scaling production while maintaining biosecurity, and developing consistent export market linkages remain key challenges. Continuous skill development and market diversification are critical for long-term sustainability.

"Diversifying aquaculture with high-value species is essential for building resilience, sustainability, and premium market access".

–Mr. Shaik Karimulla

Startup Pitching Session

Problem:

Aquaculture faces severe economic and production losses due to disease outbreaks, water quality deterioration, climatic fluctuations, and delayed disease detection. Conventional monitoring methods are manual, and insufficient to prevent large-scale losses.

Solution:

The startup deploys an AI-integrated linear aerial mobility system to monitor ponds in real time. Advanced sensors, sonar, and thermal scanners track water quality and fish behaviour. Early warnings enable timely interventions before problems escalate.

Innovation:

The system provides continuous, non-intrusive, and precise pond monitoring.
It integrates behavioural mapping, AI analytics, and renewable energy support. All critical parameters are delivered through a single intelligent platform.

Mr. Midhu S. Nair
AI-ILAMS

Business Model:

The solution operates via an AI-enabled mobile application providing alerts and analytics. Revenue is generated through device deployment and subscription-based monitoring services. The model suits large farms, clusters, and government-supported aquaculture programs.

Challenges:

High initial capital investment due to advanced and military-grade components, ensuring affordability for small-scale farmers, and scaling deployment across diverse aquaculture systems remain key challenges. Long-term success depends on cost optimization, institutional support, and farmer adoption of AI-driven technologies.

"Timely intelligence powered by AI can prevent loss before they occur in aquaculture".

–Mr. Gopinath Jambulingam

Startup Pitching Session

Mr. M. Ravi
Founder
Bogar Biologocals Agro Farms

Problem: Aquaculture farmers often face water quality deterioration, disease outbreaks, and poor performance that affect productivity, and many existing probiotic and aquaculture input products lack consistent effectiveness under field conditions, which results in reduced survival rates, lower yields, and increased production risks.

Solution: The startup develops biofloc-compatible probiotic solutions focused on improving water quality and pond stability. Products are validated through field trials, in shrimp farms in Thailand, ensuring practical effectiveness. The approach emphasizes preventive health management to minimize disease-related losses.

Innovation: Products are manufactured under GMP standards and comply with ISO 9001 certification, ensuring quality and safety. Field-tested performance enhances reliability under intensive aquaculture conditions. Scientific formulation is effectively translated into farm-level application.

Business Model: The enterprise markets aquaculture and agriculture products directly to farmers and farming clusters. Sales are supported through demonstrations, expos, and institutional incubation networks. Quality assurance and certification strengthen customer trust and retention.

Challenges: Expanding market reach in a competitive aquaculture input sector remains challenging. Large-scale adoption requires continuous farmer education and awareness-building. Maintaining cost competitiveness while ensuring high-quality production is an ongoing concern.

"Preventive pond management is the foundation of sustainable aquaculture".

–Mr. M. Ravi

Startup Pitching Session

Problem: Coastal fishing communities often face income instability due to dependence on raw fish sales, price fluctuations, limited access to processing, value addition, and organized markets restricts income opportunities, especially for women.

Solution: The startup focuses on fisheries-based food processing and value addition through fresh fish mobile outlets, fish and prawn pickles, and solar-dried fish products. Ready-to-cook products are developed to meet urban consumer demand, and the model integrates sustainable processing with market-driven product diversification.

Innovation: The enterprise combines community-based production with value-added fisheries products tailored for urban and semi-urban markets. Use of solar dryers ensures quality, hygiene, and sustainability in dry fish processing.

Mr. Julius Thuyamani
Founder, Arputham Enterprises

Business Model: The startup follows a mixed retail model including mobile fresh fish outlets, wholesale and retail supply, and urban market penetration. Products are marketed through grocery stores, organic food outlets, mobile insulated vehicles, and online and social media-based orders.

Challenges: Scaling operations while maintaining quality and consistency remains a key challenge. Market penetration in competitive urban food segments requires branding and consumer awareness. Access to capital and formal registration are critical for long-term expansion.

"Value addition in fisheries is the pathway to sustainable livelihoods and inclusive coastal development".

-Mr. Julius Thuyamani

Startup Pitching Session

Problem:

Post-harvest agricultural waste from groundnut, copra, and sesame oil extraction creates serious environmental concerns, including high carbon emissions and plastic pollution from single-use food containers. Farmers also face limited economic value from these waste by-products.

Solution:

The startup converts oil-extracted agricultural waste cakes into biodegradable, chemical-free food containers and protein-rich cattle, poultry, and fish feed. By using screw-type cold-pressed technology, the model enables a circular, waste-to-wealth approach.

Innovation:

The products are 100% biodegradable, plastic-free, and made from edible raw materials with low carbon emissions. The patented technology ensures product uniqueness while increasing farmer income through improved waste utilization.

Mr. Gopinath Jambulingam
Founder & CEO
Faarm2Plate Ancestor Pvt. Ltd.

Business Model:

The enterprise follows a B2B and institutional sales model, supplying eco-friendly food containers to hospitals, food service providers, and organizations. Raw materials are sourced through farmers, FPOs, and NGOs, with incubation and support under the RKVY-RAFTAAR scheme.

Challenges:

Scaling production while maintaining affordability remains a key challenge, along with market adoption of biodegradable alternatives. Ensuring consistent raw material supply and managing certification and compliance costs are additional concerns.

"Waste becomes valuable when innovation meets sustainability".

–Mr. Gopinath Jambulingam

Technical Session

Dr. A. Uma, delivered the Concluding Address, highlighting the overall significance of the Fisheries Startup & Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet – Connect. Collaborate. Catalyse as a timely and impactful platform for strengthening innovation and entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector.

She acknowledged the joint efforts of MANAGE, Hyderabad and TNJFU in conceptualizing and organizing the programme, and reflected on the rich deliberations held throughout the day covering policy support, technological innovation, institutional incubation, industry perspectives, and market-driven solutions. The startup experience-sharing sessions, exhibition, pitching, and networking activities were highlighted for enabling meaningful interaction and collaboration among diverse stakeholders.

Dr. A. Uma
Dean
Institute of Fisheries Postgraduate Studies (IFPGS)

Dr. Uma concluded by expressing confidence that the stakeholders meet had successfully achieved its objective of connecting ideas, fostering collaboration, and catalysing entrepreneurial action, and conveyed optimism that the discussions and linkages formed would translate into successful startups, sustainable livelihoods, and a stronger, innovation-driven fisheries ecosystem in the years to come.

"When institutions, innovators, and industry collaborate, entrepreneurship in fisheries thrives".

–Dr. A. Uma

Technical Session

Dr. Saravanan Raj
Director (Agricultural Extension)
MANAGE

Dr. Saravanan Raj, delivered the Valedictory Address, expressing gratitude to the Honourable Vice-Chancellor, TNJFU, dignitaries, speakers, participants, and organizers for making the programme meaningful and impactful.

He described the event as a small but important beginning, emphasizing that institutions like MANAGE and partner organizations are committed to handholding innovators and students in transforming ideas into viable startups.

The address highlighted that the platform was created to connect, collaborate, and nurture ideas, acknowledging that not all ideas may be immediately feasible, but out-of-the-box and unconventional ideas often lead to real innovation.

Dr. Saravanan Raj encouraged students and aspiring entrepreneurs to experiment, learn from failures, refine ideas, and reapply, noting that government support through schemes such as PMMSY and institutional backing from agencies like NFDB provide multiple opportunities for innovators, and urged participants to remain confident, innovative, and entrepreneurial.

"Innovation grows when ideas are encouraged, failures are accepted, and institutions stand ready to support".

-Dr. Saravanan Raj

Technical Session III

Mr. Santhosh Kumar delivered the Vote of Thanks, highlighting that a strong startup ecosystem is built not by institutions alone, but by stakeholders who believe, collaborate, and move forward together.

He reflected on the Fisheries–Startup & Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet as a true embodiment of Connect. Collaborate. Catalyse., marked by meaningful dialogue, innovation, and partnerships.

The address conveyed heartfelt gratitude to the Honourable Vice-Chancellor, TNJFU, the leadership of MANAGE, and the faculty and coordinators of TNJFU and IFPGS for their guidance, encouragement, and unwavering support. Appreciation was also extended to all speakers, panelists, startup founders, exhibitors, evaluators, and stakeholders whose active participation formed the backbone of the programme, and expressed optimism that the connections and discussions from the meet would translate into strong collaborations and sustained entrepreneurial growth under MANAGE–FISHub.

Mr. Santhosh Kumar
MANAGE-FISHub Intern

"An ecosystem is not built by institutions alone, but by stakeholders who believe, network, collaborate, and move forward together".

-Mr. Santhosh Kumar

List of Startups Participated in the Program

S.No	Startup	Founder Name	Descrpition
1	**Odaku**	**Mr. Xavier Lawrance**	Integrated platform delivering substantial value for all industry stakeholders by offering single, simplified platform. It prioritizes the needs of fishers, avoiding overabundance of electronic gadgets. Focusing on integrating traditional knowledge with modern technologies with marine navigation system, AIS combining with geofencing, catchlog data management for sustainable fisheries with traceability.
2	**Faarm2Plate Ancestor Agrichain Pvt. Ltd**	**Mr. Gopinath Jambulingam**	Faarm2Plate focuses on converting post-harvest agricultural waste into biodegradable food containers and protein-rich animal feed. Using innovative cold-pressed technology, the startup promotes a circular, waste-to-wealth model that reduces carbon emissions and plastic usage.

S.No	Startup	Founder Name	Descrpition
3	**Vridhi Techno Farms Pvt. Ltd.**	**Mr. Vasukumar Nair**	Vridhi Techno Farms is a fisheries-focused startup working to transform how consumers perceive and consume fish as a safe, fresh, and nutritious superfood. The enterprise adopts a consumer-first approach, emphasizing traceability, hygiene, and quality across the value chain. By developing a robust cold-chain and doorstep delivery model, the startup addresses concerns related to odour, safety, and freshness.
4	**Kareem Agro Farms**	**Mr. Shaik Karimulla**	The startup promotes high-value exotic aquaculture through the farming of premium species such as Wallago attu, tilapia, pearl spot, and murrels. The startup leverages advanced RAS and Biofloc systems to enable sustainable, diversified, and high-margin aquaculture. By reducing dependence on shrimp monoculture, it addresses market and disease risks.

S.No	Startup	Founder Name	Descrpition
5	**AI-Integrated Linear Aerial Mobility System for Aquaculture**	**Mr. Midhu S. Nair**	AI- ILAMS introduces an AI-driven linear aerial mobility system for real-time aquaculture pond monitoring. The system integrates sensors, sonar, thermal imaging, and AI analytics to track water quality and fish behaviour. It enables early detection of disease and stress, allowing timely interventions and to protect the fish farms from economic losses.
6	**Bogar Biologicals Pvt. Ltd.**	**Mr. M. Ravi**	The startup develops biofloc-compatible probiotic solutions to improve pond health and production stability. The products are GMP and ISO-certified, ensuring consistent quality under intensive farming conditions. Field trials, including international validation, support product reliability. The startup focuses on preventive health management to enhance survival rates and farmer confidence.

S.No	Startup	Founder Name	Descrpition
7	**Arputham Enterprises**	**Mr. Julius Thuyamani**	Arputham Enterprises is a fisheries value-addition startup focused on food processing and livelihood creation in coastal Tamil Nadu. The enterprise produces fresh fish through mobile outlets, fish and prawn pickles, and solar-dried fish products. With strong engagement of women collectives and fisher communities, the model promotes inclusive employment and bridges traditional fisheries with organized urban markets.
8	**Bharath Rhino Biotech Pvt. Ltd.**	**Dr. M. Srinivasan**	Bharath Rhino Biotech Pvt. Ltd., is a biotech startup working on aquaculture health and pond management solutions. The company develops and supplies aquaculture chemicals, feed supplements, and water treatment products to support disease control and productivity. Its focus is on science-based, field-oriented solutions for sustainable shrimp and fish farming.

Organising Team

MANAGE

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