



MANAGE DIALOGUE 2026

International Workshop on the Future of Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

24–26 February 2026 | MANAGE, Hyderabad, India

Background Note

Agricultural extension and advisory services are crucial for promoting sustainable farming, improving rural livelihoods, and supporting inclusive growth. In today's complex and fast-changing agri-food systems, extension goes beyond simply transferring technology. Modern extension must include knowledge about climate-smart practices, natural resource management, nutrition, social well-being, and risk reduction, while also connecting farmers to services, innovations, and markets. This calls for flexible, multifunctional approaches and new skills for extension professionals to handle diverse challenges.

Despite their central importance, extension systems face significant pressures, including resource scarcity, unequal access to digital tools, and information. These challenges underscore the urgency of transforming extension into a more inclusive, participatory, and responsive system that addresses the needs of smallholders, women, youth, and marginalized communities.

The MANAGE Dialogue on Future of Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services offers a global forum for stakeholders to share experiences, exchange knowledge, and build partnerships. The workshop will focus on innovative and context-specific approaches ranging from pluralistic extension systems to digital advisory platforms, from participatory methodologies to climate-resilient practices to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of extension services.

The workshop will foster dialogue and collaboration among policymakers, researchers, development practitioners, and the private sector to identify actionable strategies for strengthening institutions, enhancing human capacity, and informing policy. It will help align extension strategies with national and global priorities, strengthen institutional frameworks, and equip extension systems with the tools, partnerships, and capacities needed to support resilient, sustainable, and inclusive agri-food systems. The outcomes are expected to contribute to more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable agri-food systems, advancing global efforts toward the Sustainable Development Goals and long-term rural development.

Objectives

The MANAGE dialogue on the Future of Agricultural Extension and advisory services seeks to:



Facilitate policy dialogue on reorienting agricultural extension and advisory systems to address emerging global challenges such as climate change, digital transformation and market integration.



Exchange experiences and good practices on innovative extension models that enhance inclusivity, sustainability and resilience across different agro-ecological and institutional contexts.



Promote collaboration and partnerships among governments, research institutions, development agencies and the private sector to strengthen pluralistic extension systems.



Identify capacity development needs and priorities for strengthening human and institutional capabilities in designing, implementing and evaluating extension programs.

Proposed Themes

The program will include an exciting mix of practitioners, researchers and policymakers presenting in topical panels.



Reimagining Agricultural Extension in a Changing World

- Evolving paradigms: From technology transfer to value chain extension
- Strengthening human resources and professionalism
- Pluralistic and inclusive extension systems



Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Extension

- Climate-smart agriculture, adaptation, and mitigation
- Agroecology, regenerative farming and resilience building
- Biodiversity and natural resource conservation



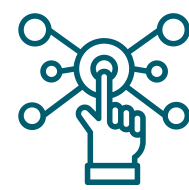
Policy, Governance and Financing of Extension Systems

- Policy reforms for inclusive, accountable and resilient extension
- Investment strategies and global partnerships



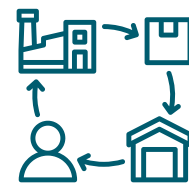
Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Field Innovations

- Farmer and practitioner perspectives
- Field visits to showcase digital advisory platforms, FPOs and climate-smart practices
- Networking, collaboration and knowledge sharing



Digital and Data-Driven Extension

- AI, big data, IoT and digital advisory platforms
- Social media and digital communities of practice
- Digital inclusion and capacity building



Market-Oriented and Entrepreneurship-Focused Extension

- Supporting agripreneurs, startups and farmer-producer organizations (FPOs)
- Linking farmers to value chains and markets



Extension Education, Capacity Building and Knowledge Linkages

- Developing competencies for future extension professionals
- Innovations in extension education and e-learning
- Strengthening research-policy-practice linkages

Expected Outcomes

By the end of the program, participants are expected to:



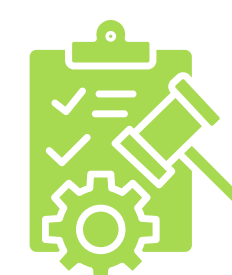
Develop a shared understanding and vision for the future of agricultural extension and advisory services in achieving sustainable and resilient agri-food systems.



Generate evidence-based recommendations to inform national and regional policies, strategies and investments in extension and rural advisory services.



Establish or strengthen multi-stakeholder networks and partnerships for joint initiatives, research, and knowledge exchange on extension innovations.



Produce a workshop communiqué or action framework outlining strategic directions and collaborative pathways for modernizing agricultural extension systems.



Who can Participate

- ✓ Policymakers, government representatives and farmers
- ✓ International development organizations
- ✓ Agri startups and private sector
- ✓ Extension professionals and Development practitioners
- ✓ Agricultural universities and research institutions
- ✓ Researchers and Students
- ✓ Youth and women
- ✓ NGOs, FPO leaders and community organizations



Participants Contribution

Research articles, case studies, and review papers (Maximum of 12 pages) on the Dialogue themes may be submitted on or before 15 January 2026. Selected contributions will be invited to present at the workshop.



Kindly send your submissions to

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Register for Participation: <https://www.manage.gov.in>

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