



## Newsletter

# “Center for Gender in Agriculture, Nutritional Security and Urban Agriculture”

CGANSUA Insights

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### Highlights

- MANAGE celebrated Mahila Kisan Diwas
- Nurturing Future Agri Leaders: Internship at the Centre for Gender in Agriculture
- Adaptation Workshop on Food Systems Countdown Initiative
- Online Training Program
- Webinar



## Mahila Kisan Diwas 2025: Stories, Success, and Sustainability



On October 15, 2025, National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) celebrated Mahila Kisan Diwas under the theme “Empowering Women Farmers for a Prosperous Nation.” The event highlighted collaborations to strengthen women-led enterprises and foster inclusive growth in agriculture.



More than 80 women entrepreneurs from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat participated in the celebration. Distinguished guests included Dr. Sagar Hanuman Singh, IPoS, Director General, MANAGE; Mrs. Chetana Jain, President, COWE Telangana Chapter & National Joint Secretary, COWE; Smt. Bhavyata Ben, SEWA Gujarat; and Smt. Ujvala Ganesh Raut, FWWB Maharashtra. In her opening remarks Dr. Veenita Kumari

emphasized the critical role of women farmers in shaping sustainable agriculture and inclusive rural development. She highlighted the need for stronger institutional support, gender responsive policies, and platforms that amplify women’s voices in agri food systems.

In his keynote address, Dr. Sagar Hanuman Singh emphasized that women are the backbone of Indian agriculture, contributing across all stages—from farming operations to procurement and marketing. He encouraged participants to continue their journey with confidence and self-motivation. Mrs. Chetana Jain highlighted the importance of showcasing business products and urged women farmers to draw strength from within, advancing as successful agripreneurs.

A dynamic panel on “Mahila Kisan: Catalysts of Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Prosperity” brought together women agripreneurs who shared their success stories, lived experiences, and perspectives on advancing sustainable agriculture. The discussion underscored the pivotal role of women farmers in driving rural development, fostering innovation, and building resilient communities.

**As part of the celebrations, the dignitaries unveiled two books and one policy brief that spotlight women’s leadership in agriculture:**

1. Celebrating Women Farmers: The Custodians of Our Fields – Success stories highlighting the resilience and innovation of women farmers.
2. Challenges of Land Ownership among Women Farmers: A Case Study of Bihar – A research study examining barriers and pathways to secure land rights.
3. Gender Mainstreaming in Agricultural Extension Services – A policy brief offering actionable recommendations to strengthen inclusivity in extension systems.



These publications underscore MANAGE's commitment to advancing gender equality, amplifying women's voices, and shaping evidence-based policies for a more inclusive agricultural future.



An engaging exhibition showcased the creativity and enterprise of women agripreneurs, featuring a diverse range of products. Displays included rice, millet-based foods, vegetables, pickles, cashews, coconuts, dairy products, bamboo crafts, snacks, millet flour, and handcrafted fabrics. The exhibition not only celebrated women's innovation in agri-food systems but also provided a platform for networking, visibility, and market linkages—underscoring the growing strength of women-led enterprises in driving rural prosperity.



The celebration underscored the transformative role of women in agriculture and their growing leadership in building resilient, inclusive, and prosperous rural communities.

## Empowering Future Agricultural Leaders: Internship at the Centre for Gender in Agriculture

The Centre for Gender in Agriculture recently hosted three students from Acharya N. G. Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU), Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, for a two-month internship programme. The internship aimed to provide practical exposure and deepen understanding of key agricultural schemes and gender-inclusive development initiatives.

During the internship, the students actively engaged in research, analysis, and awareness-building activities on the following themes:

- 1. Evaluating the Effectiveness of PM-KMY:** Assessing its role in ensuring social security for small and marginal farmers.
- 2. Andhra Pradesh Community-Based Natural Farming (APCNF):** Studying the implementation and impact of sustainable and eco-friendly farming practices.
- 3. Awareness Generation on Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF):** Exploring its potential as a step towards promoting women entrepreneurs and agri start-ups.



## Launch of the EAT-Lancet

On 30 October 2025, the EAT-Lancet Commission Report 2025 was launched in New Delhi, co-convened by EAT and Bharat Krishak Samaj. Dr. Veenita Kumari was invited as a delegate alongside eminent leaders from agriculture, nutrition, and public health.

The Commission introduced the Planetary Health Diet—a science-based framework promoting more fruits, vegetables, nuts, and legumes, while reducing meat and dairy. The report sets global targets to feed the world sustainably by 2050 and prevent millions of premature deaths linked to unhealthy diets.



## Adaptation Workshop on Food Systems Countdown Initiative

On 31 October 2025, the Adaptation Workshop for the India-adapted Indicator Framework of the Food Systems Countdown Initiative (FSCI) was held at the UN House, New Delhi. Dr. Veenita Kumari participated as a delegate and contributed actively as a core working committee member.



During the plenary discussions, she shared her inputs on indicators to monitor; confirming current indicators and identifying potential ones for future inclusion, helping shape the framework for tracking India's progress in sustainable food systems.

## Earth Summit 2025: Empowering Rural Innovation

On 20–21 November 2025, the Earth Summit 2025 – Empowering Rural Innovation for Global Change was held at Hitex Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad, organized by IMIAI and NABARD. Dr. Veenita Kumari was invited as a delegate at this landmark gathering.

The summit spotlighted key themes shaping the future of agriculture and rural development, including:



- The role of **digital media** in advancing agriculture
- Potential of **agri-startups**
- Climate change impacts on farming systems
- **Agri-exports and global value chains**
- **Rural finance and credit** for inclusive growth



An exhibition of innovative agri-enterprises showcased cutting-edge solutions and products, reflecting the creativity and resilience of India's rural innovators.

## Online Training Programs

The Centre for Gender Studies conducted the following training programs

Promoting Nutri-Sensitive Agriculture among Extension functionaries November 11, 2025 to November 13, 2025.

Gender Mainstreaming in Agriculture and Allied Sectors for Inclusive and Resilient Community-Building November 17, 2025 to November 19, 2025.

## Webinar

The Centre for Gender Studies conducted the following webinars:

Harnessing Social Media and E-Commerce Platforms for Women-Led Agribusinesses October 10, 2025.

Traditional Foods as a Pathway to Improved Nutrition and Gender Equity November 11, 2025.

Corn Silk: Promising Resource for Health Promotion and Economic Prosperity November 11, 2025.

Promoting Agri-entrepreneurship for Women Issues Challenges and Way Forward on November, 28 2025.

Integrating Bio-fortification into School Feeding and Nutrition Programs December, 17, 2025.

**“When women farmers thrive, agriculture transforms—not only feeding the families, but nourishing future and strengthening nations.”**





## Editorial Team

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