

AARDO - KOICA Follow up workshop on “Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development” New Delhi, India

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Kerala in India

1. Background

- **Women farmers collectives (Self Help Group)**
- **60,000 farmer groups with 3,00,000+ members (5 per group)**
- Cultivates 50,000+ hectares of land
- **Paddy, Banana, Vegetables and tuber crops**
- Sells in local market with less value addition



Group Farming

Joint Liability Groups

1. Current Program/ Project Details

- Three new initiatives in Agriculture
 - Value Addition units
 - Nursery units
 - Support for new Technology
 - Organic Farming

Policy

- Kudumbashree, Government of Kerala **brought a policy to support value addition units and to introduce new technology in agriculture**
- 40% of the project cost, upto INR 2,00,000 (US\$ 2,850) will be given **(for each unit) for introducing new technology and for value chain units**
- A capital **support of Rs. 50,000 (US\$ 700) for plant nurseries**
- **Additional Area Incentive 10%** to farmers who are into Organic Farming

Project 1

- Project aims at **establishing 85 value addition units** in various crops like banana, paddy, jack fruit
- **Rs. 205 lakhs allocated** as support (US\$ 3,00,000)
- Location: In all districts of Kerala
- **300+ beneficiaries**
- Implemented by Kudumbashree; and implementation started

Project 2

- Project aims at **establishing 140 plant nurseries**
- **Rs. 77 lakhs (US\$ 1,10,000) allocated as support**
- Location: In all districts of Kerala (10 each)
- **150+ beneficiaries**
- Implemented by Kudumbashree, and **266 units identified and 86 nurseries started**



Jaivika plant nursery

Project 3

- Project aims at introducing new technology in agriculture
- Rs. 56 lakhs (US\$ 80,000) allocated as support
- Location: In all districts of Kerala
- **30+ Beneficiaries**
- Implemented by Kudumbashree. Will be completed by December



Aquaponics



Tissue Culture Unit



Rain shelter

Project 4

- Project aims at bringing 10000 hectares under Organic Farming with PGS certification
- Location: 201 clusters In all districts of Kerala
- **Beneficiaries : 20,000+ farmers currently engaged**
- Implemented by Kudumbashree in association with NRLM and NCOF



Organic Farming

Results / Outcomes

- **New technology introduced** in agriculture for the first time (among poor women)
- **More support for value addition, and aims to get good turnover in the coming months**
- 500+ women farmers will be benefitted
- Monthly income of Rs.7,000/- (US\$ 100) per unit expected
- **Organic Farming : Safe to eat products to public and premium price for farmers**

Main challenges and solutions

- Time taken for policy formulation
- Approval of budget
- Training and support
- Marketing
- Sustainability
- Awareness creation

Support from/ areas of cooperation from KOICA/ AARDO

- Knowledge of best practices and latest technologies
- Feedback/ continuous inputs
- Inputs/ ideas on Branding/ marketing

Thanks