RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Dryland Systems

CGIAR

Implementation report on

"Capacity strengthening on improved dryland technologies"

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Introduction

The productivity in semi-arid tropics is low not because of lack of technologies, but mainly due to lack of awareness and knowledge amongst the farmers. Any initiative on promoting improved technologies can be successful and sustainable only if capacity strengthening is duly focused.

Methodology

Considering the importance of capacity strengthening, the consortium is focussing on extensive training programs on soil test-based balanced nutrition, improved crops and varieties, seed production, diversification to vegetables, water conservation and utilization, fodder development and mechanization. During 2015, the target is to conduct >20 trainings during start of the season and mid of the season. In addition, ~4 field days one in each village are also planned to be conducted to show the benefits of improved technologies and disseminate these results to other farmers also.

Progress (6-monthly)

Five farmer training programs are conducted till June 2015 in the action site villages (Table 1). About 150 farmers including 100 men and 50 women farmers were trained on soil test-based nutrient management, sowing and seed treatment; mechanized operations particularly sowing. Experts from ICRISAT, ANGRAU, NGO partners (AFEC, RSDS, CORUS) participated in the capacity building programs. Delay in monsoon has postponed pre-season trainings and now going on extensively.

Table 1. Detail of capacity building programs conducted in Dryland Systems action sites in Andhra Pradesh

S. No.	Date	Village	District	No. of participating farmers		
				Men	Women	Total
1	18.5.15	Yerraguntla	Kurnool	25	15	40
2	19.5.15	V. Bonthiral	Kurnool	20	5	25
3	25.5.15	V. Bonthiral	Kurnool	19	10	29
4	28.5.15	Kurlapalli	Anantapur	22	9	31
5	13.6.15	V. Bonthiral	Kurnool	15	8	23

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The CGIAR Research Program on Dryland Systems aims to improve the lives of 1.6 billion people and mitigate land and resource degradation in 3 billion hectares covering the world's dry areas.

Dryland Systems engages in integrated agricultural systems research to address key socioeconomic and biophysical constraints that affect food security, equitable and sustainable land and natural resource management, and the livelihoods of poor and marginalized dryland communities. The program unifies eight CGIAR Centers and uses unique partnership platforms to bind together scientific research results with the skills and capacities of national agricultural research systems (NARS), advanced research institutes (ARIs), non-governmental and civil society organizations, the private sector, and other actors to test and develop practical innovative solutions for rural dryland communities.

The program is led by the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), a member of the CGIAR Consortium. CGIAR is a global agriculture research partnership for a food secure future.

For more information, please visit

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