



Building Resilience in Agriculture for Food Security

Round Table Discussion
10th October 2015

AGENDA

09:30 – 10:00	Registration and Tea
10:00 – 10:20	Inaugural Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Participants • Brief overview of the field visits and case-studies • Setting the agenda
10:20 – 11:15	<p>Technical Session 1: Technology Adoption for Sustainable Agriculture</p> <p>Technologies for sustainable agriculture have demonstrated their ability to improve production efficiencies even in resource constrained contexts. How do we ensure that such technology packages are adopted at scale by small farmers?</p>
11:15 – 11:30	Tea Break
11:30 – 12:20	<p>Technical Session 2: Scaling Out of Community Based Models</p> <p>Community based models of sustainable agriculture enable higher efficiencies through sharing of roles and resources. What policy and institutional linkages could be the drivers for scale-out of such models?</p>
12:20 – 12:50	<p>Concluding Session: Agriculture Systems in the Rural Economies</p> <p>How can agriculture contribute to growth of rural economies (comparable with other sectors of economy) while ensuring environmental well-being and food security?</p>
12:50 – 13:00	Vote of Thanks
13:00	Lunch

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Structure: Round Table Discussion

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Objective

The discussion will aim to collectively understand, identify and deliberate upon the nature of investments in capacity building and technology adoption required for building resilience in agriculture systems and to thus promote sustainable food security outcomes. Participants will bring in diverse experiences and perspectives from innovation, practice and policy spheres. The moderated discussion will be guided using the following key questions:

1. How do we ensure that technology packages for sustainable agriculture are adopted at scale by small farmers?

Pilot interventions across the country indicate that appropriate technologies to improve production efficiencies even in resource constrained contexts already exist. The session will look at how such technology packages can be made easily available to farmers and how farmers can be facilitated to make informed choices. Technology packages in the context of this discussion is defined broadly to include farm inputs, farm implements, risk reduction systems, ICT systems, trainings, etc

2. What policy and institutional linkages could be the drivers for scaling-out of community based models for sustainable agriculture?

Community based models for sustainable agriculture enable higher efficiencies through sharing of roles and resources. Discussions in this session will concentrate on how institutions and policy ecosystem around such community based models can promote them, Self-Help Groups being one comparable good case. This session will further aim to deliberate over such systems that can be built around community based models for resource sharing, product aggregation, etc.

3. How can agriculture contribute to growth of rural economies (comparable with other sectors of economy) while ensuring environmental well-being and food security?

This session aims to envision the role of agriculture sector in the current development paradigm and whether the economic outcomes out of agriculture sector can be comparable with economic outcomes of other secondary and tertiary sectors. The session shall explore what kind of agriculture models can make this sector economically strong, ensuring livelihood support to adequate population and at the same time being environment friendly.

Expected Outcome

The insights and recommendations brought forth during the discussion will be condensed into imperatives that highlight investments required for achieving resilience in agricultural systems. The nature of these investments could span policy, finance, technology and capacities. The outcomes of the discussions would be shared with decision makers and actors engaged in sustainable agriculture and food security issues, like NITI Aayog Task Force for Agricultural Development, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Ministry of Agriculture.

DISCUSSION NOTE

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