

Registration fee

Members of EES : Rs. 4000/- (\$150) Non - Members : Rs. 5000/- (\$200)
Students : Rs. 2000/- (\$85)

The registration fee should be sent as demand draft, drawn in favour of “**INTFES2018**”, payable at Coimbatore. The registration fee along with the filled in registration form may be sent to the Organizing Secretary on or before **29 January 2018**.

Online payment:

State Bank of India **A/c No. : 37324190080**, TNAU Branch, Coimbatore - 641003. **IFSC : SBIN0002274. Branch code : 2274**. After payment, send a confirmation mail to the Organizing Secretary, (e-mail : intfes18@gmail.com) The forms can also be downloaded from www.intfes18.org

Accommodation

Accommodation will be arranged in TNAU, Coimbatore on first-come-first-served basis. Participants may stay in hotels also. The tariff details and addresses of some of the hotels will be uploaded in the website in order to facilitate the participants to choose and book accommodation on their own. The cost of lodging has to be met by the participants themselves.

Dates to Remember

Abstract Submission: 28th January 2018
Full-Length Paper Submission: 05th February 2018
Conference Dates: 9th & 10th March 2018

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON Invigorating Transformation of Farm Extension Towards Sustainable Development: Futuristic Challenges and Prospects

INTFES-2018

Venue

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore, India

Date

March 9 & 10, 2018



Organized by

Extension Education Society (EES)
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Campus
Coimbatore - 641 003, India.

www.intfes18.org

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INVIGORATING TRANSFORMATION OF FARM EXTENSION TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT : FUTURISTIC CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

INTFES - 2018

Prelude

The importance of agricultural extension in the global agricultural development has been well documented. Majority of the farmers are still small landholders for whom agricultural extension is their primary gateway to access information on scientific farming techniques. Almost 80 per cent of the world's extreme poor live in rural areas where most are dependent on agriculture.

Investing in agricultural extension and focussing on boosting the income of smallholder, foresters, fisher folk, rural women and youth are the key to achieving inclusive and equitable growth while tackling the root causes of poverty and hunger. A comprehensive approach to tackling food insecurity and malnutrition while promoting sustainable agriculture is an important step to achieve zero hunger (*UN Sustainable Development Goal: 2*) and ushering in a new era of sustainable development. Given the mounting pressure on global ecosystems, the sustainable food production must be achieved for which agricultural extension could play a major role.

Of late, extension systems in the developing nations are facing serious challenges where an effective extension system would play a significant role in development process by disseminating information, new technologies, innovative approaches by adopting innovative extension methods & tools, decentralization process and participatory approaches.

In India, the intensive and indiscriminate usage of inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, high yielding varieties and machinery had resulted in bio-system degradation, poor soil health, soil erosion, air and water pollution and depletion of natural resources. This after-effect, coupled with burgeoning population and decreasing irrigated area had complicated the situation, warranting an immediate solution for promotion of sustainable agriculture. There has been a growing realization that traditional extension models have not been sufficiently effective in promoting adoption of sustainable agricultural practices. Today's agricultural extension need to take into consideration environmental implications, social issues and overall economic growth within the agriculture sector.

It is almost impossible to realize inclusive good agriculture in the absence of an efficient and effective extension system. Strenuous efforts are being made to raise productivity levels through effective extension-scientists-farmers contacts, improving out-reach capacity and focusing on electronic transfer of technology through manpower training and allocation of resources. Nevertheless, agriculture is in dire need of new extension models and approaches to overcome the futuristic challenges.

Hence, global agricultural extension needs a complete transformation by reorienting the existing extension approaches and identifying alternative, sustainable approaches that are tailor-made to the needs of the society. Keeping these views in mind, an International Conference on "*Invigorating Transformation of Farm Extension towards Sustainable Development: Futuristic Challenges and Prospects*" is planned and to be organized by the Extension Education Society, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.

This conference will bring together leading academic scientists, researchers, extension functionaries, policy makers, research scholars and other stakeholders. It will serve as a platform to have detailed interaction on the prevailing trends, concerns, practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the field of Agricultural Extension which includes merits and demerits of existing extension approaches across the world.

Extension Education Society

The Extension Education Society established in 1990, takes up various activities to promote the cause of Extension scientists in India by providing a platform for extension scientists in the country to meet periodically for discussion, exchange of information, findings and experiences on different aspects of agricultural extension. The Society works as an interface between researchers and the extension professionals. The **Journal of Extension Education (JEE)** is a peer-reviewed journal in the field of extension education published by the Extension Education Society (EES) since 1990. It publishes articles representing original work, analytical papers and papers grounded in theory in the field of Extension Education. The journal is published in both print and online versions and is available at www.extensioneducation.org

Thematic Areas

The major themes of the conference are:

Theme I: Sustainable Extension approaches for Technology Delivery

Production led extension approach- Market-led Extension approach- Demand-driven extension - Privatization of Agricultural Extension - Participatory Extension Methods-Participatory Technology Development & Generation-Group approaches - Self Help groups - Agricultural Technology Management

Agency (ATMA) - Climate-led Extension Approaches/Climate Smart Agriculture Approach - Farmer organizations, Public Private Partnership, People's participation, Pluralistic extension systems - FFS - Rural development, community approaches - Commodity based approaches, Technology backstopping, Approaches to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Need analysis, impact of government policies for improving livelihood of farmers, Implications for extension system. Family farming and other alternative extension approaches - effectiveness and efficiency of approaches – impact analysis etc.,

Theme II : Stocktaking of Extension Research

Reorientation and prioritization of focal areas of Extension research- Innovative research designs- Innovative sampling techniques for extension research –Innovative evaluation methodologies – farmer-centric research - Exploring newer dimensions of adoption and diffusion studies-Experimental studies - effectiveness of extension methods and different Extension service providers - Studies on learning styles of farmers, leadership, social interaction process - behavior studies, new measuring indexes or methods for measurement, indicators - Theories – Research prioritization, Audience Research. Qualitative & quantitative methods of data collection – Focus Groups, Interviews, Observations, Action Research – Participatory action researchs etc.,

Theme III : Strengthening Extension Education

Rapidly changing extension education– Educational technology – Lifelong learning - learning styles – approaches, capacity building of extension professionals – need for restructuring extension education curriculum etc. Global, national and regional level of extension education strategies, extension approaches to sustainable development, HRD, Effectiveness of teaching methods, Agricultural knowledge innovation system, incorporating indigenous knowledge system into agricultural extension organization etc.,

Theme IV : ICT and Technology Delivery

Studies on the design, reach and acceptability of global, national, regional ICT interventions. Documentation of success and failure stories, experiences and expertise gained in ICT projects. Policy directions for upscaling ICT enabled extension delivery system. Research and Development on ICT tools - Knowledge Management System, Digital inclusion strategies, Artificial Intelligence / Expert System / Image processing, Commodity – specific portals, Mobile Apps for strengthening extension system, Traditional media, Social Media, New media tools, Remote sensing & GIS application, Participatory Video Development and Dissemination, Digitalization for e-governance -farm specific agro advisory service-Readability- Content analysis / Evaluation and Validation of online content.

Theme V : Gender and Rural Youth for Sustainable Development

Social inclusion of disadvantaged groups - Mainstreaming gender in agriculture and allied activities, Gender budgeting, Gender sensitization, Drudgery reduction, Gender sensitive extension - Attracting & Retaining Rural Youth in Agriculture, Mapping of skill gap among rural youth, Rural youth decision-making ability, Rural youth participation in farming activities, Capacity building of rural youth, Opportunities and challenges, Youth clubs, agripreneurship /agri clinics and agri-business, Skill development activities etc.,

Theme VI : Futuristic Challenges and Prospects in Sustainable Agricultural Extension

Current and futuristic challenges in Extension Systems in Developing, Developed and Under Developed Countries – Challenges in Doubling the Farmers Income in global level - Documenting and utilizing ITKs - Food and Nutrition Security related issues - Collective Farming- Constraint analysis - Linking local and international markets - Secondary Agriculture - Ethics in Professional Extension System - Policy issues, strategies etc.,

Guidelines for Submission of Abstracts

Students, Researchers and Scientists of agriculture and allied disciplines are requested to prepare their papers in relation to the above said themes based on their research, experience and involvement in such ventures and send to the Organizing Secretary. One-page abstract, not exceeding 300 words, may be uploaded in the conference website at www.intfes18.org on or before **28.01.2018**. Full-length papers should be submitted latest by **05.02.2018**. The number of papers is restricted to two per participant as first author. The number of authors per paper may be restricted to the extent possible. **Please follow the abstract submission guidelines available at the conference website.** High quality papers presented at the conference will be selected for publication in **Journal of Extension Education** (Indexed in DOAJ & CAB; UGC approved journal).

Awards

The best presentations during the seminar will be recognized with awards. “Young Scientist Awards” for those who are below the age of 35 years, will also be presented.

Venue

The conference will be held in Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore - 641 003, Tamil Nadu, India. Coimbatore is located near the Western Ghats. The weather during March will be pleasant. The temperature will vary between from 30°C and 35°C. The city is well connected by rail, road and air. Many city buses ply through TNAU Campus (about six km away from the city railway station and bus stand). Details will be posted in the conference website.

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