



## PRESS RELEASE

### Government of Madhya Pradesh, WRI and FOLU India partner to promote farmers' livelihoods and environment sustainability

**Bhopal, 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2022:** In order to support farmers in adopting sustainable and regenerative agriculture practices, Farmers Welfare and Agriculture Development Department under Government of Madhya Pradesh (GoMP) has partnered with World Resources Institute ([WRI](#)) India and Food and Land Use Coalition ([FOLU](#)) India. The parties signed two MoUs in the state capital yesterday in the presence of **Honourable Minister of Agriculture, GoMP, Mr. Kamal Patel**, which are aimed at strengthening farmers' livelihoods and the environment through the development of a model farming landscape in the state.

Under the first MoU, the FWAD Department will provide data and research information critical to WRI India's flagship study titled '*Approaches for Doubling Farmers Income in India: Agro-Ecological System-Based Considerations*'. The study attempts to augment the recommendations of '[Committee on Doubling Farmers' Income](#)' by bringing a systems-based approach, including the ecosystem services and landscape factors i.e., the ecological, social, and cultural linkages and co-benefits from agriculture and food. The analysis shall also map influential case studies from across the country, with focus on ecosystem services and their economic significance, essentially serving as a reference for stakeholders. It will also help decision makers build in more sustainable solutions while formulating relevant policies. The study will also document influential interventions made by the MP government in the areas of organic and natural farming, especially organic cotton farming, millets production, custom-grading and processing centres, agri-waste processing.

The second MoU will enable establishing a coordinating agency (CA) under MP–Sustainable Agriculture Programme to synergize planning and implementation of different agricultural development programmes in the state. With National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) at the core of the CA mission, the agency will also implement other centre and state schemes for sustainable agricultural development in select locations.

**Mr. Kamal Patel, Honourable Minister of Agriculture, GoMP**, who was the Chief Guest at the signing event said, "The state of Madhya Pradesh is one of the most progressive states in terms of agriculture in India. The government whole-heartedly welcomes the programme as it is the need of the hour. We will work together with WRI and FOLU coalition for successful implementation of the MoUs."

**Mr. Ajit Kesari, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), GoMP**, was also present at the event along with **Jayahari KM, PhD, FOLU India Country Coordinator, Dr. Madhu Verma, Chief Economist, WRI India, Dr. Ruchika Singh, Director – Sustainable Landscape and Restoration, WRI India.**



## About WRI India

WRI India is a research organization with experts and staff who work closely with leaders to turn big ideas into action to sustain a healthy environment – the foundation of economic opportunity and human well-being. We envision an equitable and prosperous planet driven by the wise management of natural resources. We aspire to create a world where the actions of government, business and communities combine to eliminate poverty and sustain the natural environment for all people.

## About FOLU

Established in 2017, the Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU) is a community of organisations and individuals committed to the urgent need to transform the ways we produce and consume food and use our land for people, nature and climate. We support science-based solutions and help build a shared understanding of the challenges and opportunities to unlock collective, ambitious action.

The FOLU Coalition in India includes the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), Revitalising Rainfed Agriculture Network (RRAN), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and World Resources Institute India (WRI India), and with a detailed integrated country modelling effort, led by the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A) with support from International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-arid and Tropics (ICRISAT). Norwegian Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (NICFI) is one of the key supporters of this coalition. [Know more about FOLU here.](#)

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