

PRESS RELEASE

FW&ADD, GoMP conducts 3-day learning and planning workshop to identify best practices for transformation towards sustainable and regenerative agriculture

Bhopal, 22nd August, 2023: Farmer Welfare and Agriculture Development Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh (FW&ADD, GoMP) is co-organising a national-level learning and planning workshop with [WRI India](#) and [Food and Land Use Coalition India](#). The three-day workshop is being held from 22nd to 24th August. **Mr Shriman Shukla, IAS, MD, Mandi Board, MP** who was present at the inaugural session shared words of encouragement with the participants and his expectations on identifying some of the best practices across the agricultural value chain that can be adapted in the state. **Dr. M. Selvendran, IAS, Commissioner, FW&ADD, GoMP** made special remarks at the workshop where he highlighted, “Government of Madhya Pradesh is committed to bring majority of the agricultural land under sustainable or natural farming. This Learning and Planning Workshop will contribute to these ongoing efforts. Around 150 government agriculture officials from different levels of the administration are participating in this workshop, which will help them to get acquainted with the process as a whole.”

Through a series of presentations by 16 organisations, the workshop aims to examine successful models of sustainable and regenerative agriculture from across India and identify the most suitable models for the state of Madhya Pradesh. These include civil society organisations (CSOs) as well as private sector entities from the food and agriculture sector, as well as FOLU India core partners. These models include various aspects of the agricultural value chain, such as backward service delivery (Including financing sustainable agriculture), agriculture practice modifications and landscape-level initiatives for improving ecosystem functioning and strengthening forward linkages.

An expert panel comprising government officials, subject experts, policy experts and sectoral CSOs, constituted by WRI India, in consultation with the FW&ADD, GoMP will shortlist a selection of models, or components therefrom, in the drafting of landscape-level Sustainable and Regenerative Agriculture Implementation Plans. These will contain details of on-farm, off-farm and non-farm interventions, which shall inform the creation of agriculture-value chain interventions to be included in the Detailed Project Report (DPR).

These selected models will be discussed with the farmers from pilot areas in the state to incorporate their inputs in the planning process. The planning session will also have a high-level discussion on the dynamic DPR and make recommendations on the specific components that are to be emphasised. Significantly, the DPR will be dynamic in nature to continuously imbibe the field learnings and will be updated bi-annually.

Dr Ruchika Singh, Director, Sustainable Landscapes and Restoration, WRI India shared during the **inaugural session**, “The focus of this three-day workshop is on learning from the potential best practices on sustainable and regenerative agriculture in India and adopting for Madhya Pradesh (MP).

This transition should focus not only on the production systems but also the larger food systems that can enable improving incomes and livelihoods, with an eye towards social inclusion and mitigating climate impacts. MP could showcase the way for rest of the country to transition towards sustainable food systems.”

FOLU India Country Coordinator, Dr Jayahari KM, remarked, “The world is realizing the need for transforming the global food system to a sustainable one. Transforming current agricultural practices to more sustainable and regenerative methods is one of the important tasks in achieving this goal. In India, this needs to be led by state governments as agriculture is a State subject. We are glad that the MP government is leading this effort in an inclusive and bottom-up approach to benefit all the stakeholders involved.”

About the Madhya Pradesh Sustainable Agriculture Programme (MPSAP) project:

In March 2022, WRI India (FOLU India Secretariat and lead partner of this project) signed an MoU with FW&ADD, GoMP to implement the programme in selected districts. Following this, the programme was launched in four pilot districts of Chhindwara, Harda, Jabalpur, and Sehore. WRI India and FW&ADD, GoMP conducted extensive consultations in 20 villages in each of these districts to understand the present levels of sustainable practices and identify key enabling conditions crucial for making a shift towards sustainable and regenerative agriculture. The MPSAP intends to bring stakeholders together with the state government to test and build evidence for sustainable and regenerative practices that farmers can adopt for mitigating climate risks, building resilience, and improving incomes without compromising on yields. It attempts to establish a national proof point of how states can lead this transition at scale.

About Food and Land Use Coalition India

The Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU) is a global community of country platforms, partner organizations and Ambassadors working to advance sustainability, equity and resilience in food and land use systems. Created in 2017, FOLU supports diversity, embraces disruptive thinking and forges consensus through an evidence-based approach. The coalition empowers farmers, policymakers, businesses, investors and civil society to unlock collective action at scale. 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 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). [Know more about FOLU here.](#)

About WRI India

WRI India, an independent charity legally registered as the India Resources Trust, provides objective information and practical proposals to foster environmentally sound and socially equitable development. WRI India provides evidence-based information and implementable proposals to foster environmentally sound and socially equitable development. Our work focuses to help solve the four most urgent challenges in India – rapid urbanization, transition to clean energy, managing climate mitigation and adaptation and transition towards sustainable and resilient land use systems. Through research, analysis, and recommendations, WRI India puts the big ideas into action to build transformative solutions to protect the earth, promote livelihoods, and enhance 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. We are inspired by and associated with World Resources Institute (WRI), a global research organisation with more than 1700 experts and other staff around the world.

For more details, please contact:

Jayahari KM, PhD, FOLU India Country Coordinator

Ph: +91 9971799271, km.jayahari@wri.org

Pallavi Singh, Senior Communication Manager – FOLU India

Ph: +91 9999154259, india.communications@folu.org

Shweta Prajapati, Communication Manager WRI India

Ph:+91 9911935081, shweta.prajapati@wri.org