

ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Modipuram

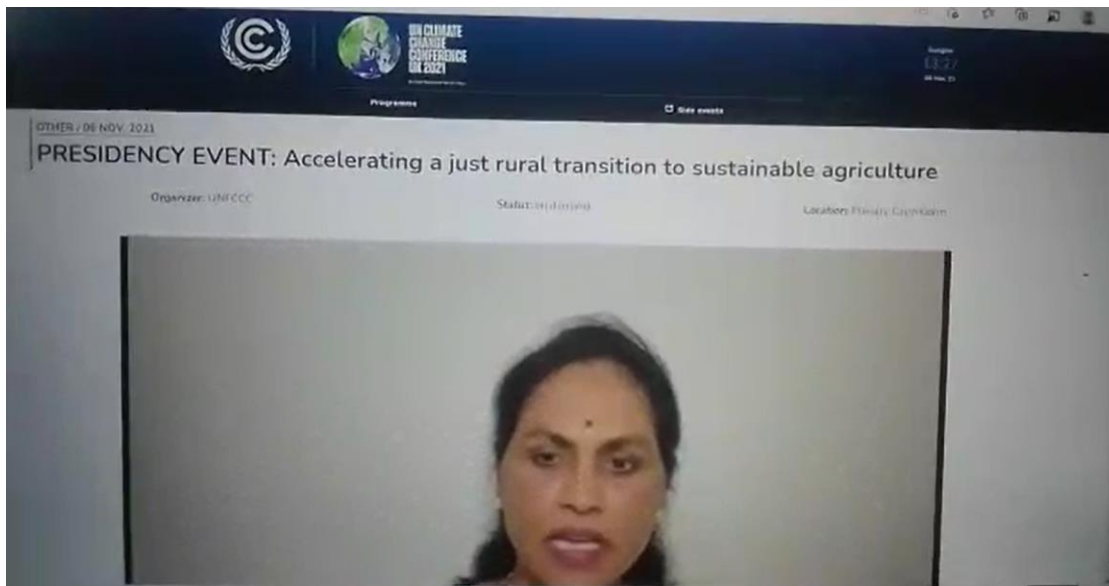
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Case Studies on Integrated Organic Farming System (IOFS) models from India released during Nature Day event of UN-Climate Change Conference (UK 2021; COP26)

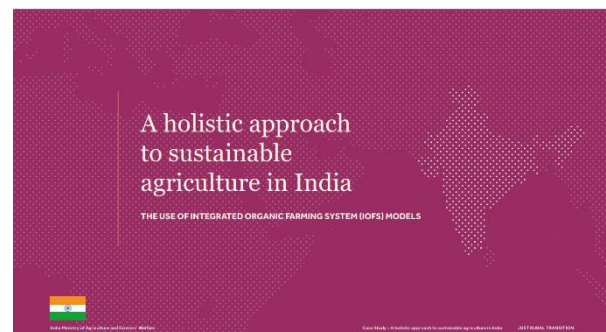
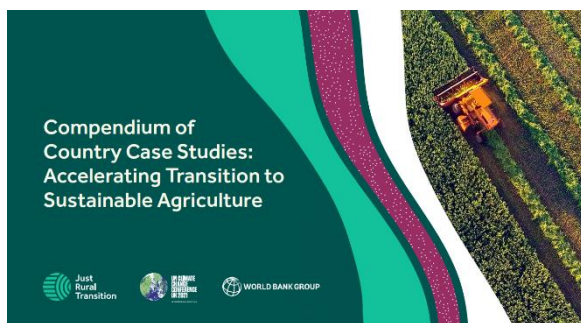
The **COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference**, hosted by the UK in partnership with Italy, is being organized from 31 October to 12 November 2021 in the Scottish Event Campus (SEC) in Glasgow, UK. On 6 November 2021, Nature Day event was organized for creating Sustainable Agriculture and land use. Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare **Km. Shobha Karandlaje** addressed the event from India and highlighted the achievements made on organic farming and promotion of climate resilient farming by ICAR. On this occasion, a publication on “**Compendium of Country Case Studies: Accelerating Transition to sustainable agriculture**” was released in which Case studies made from India on the use of Integrated Organic Farming System (IOFS) models for a holistic approach to Sustainable agriculture in India are highlighted under the theme “**Farmers as Stewards of Nature**”. The Farmers as Stewards of Nature case studies illustrate policies that enable and reward farmers to protect and restore natural resources. A total of 9 case studies from India are highlighted in the publication which includes success of sustainable development through MOVCD-NER, Integrated Organic Farming System (IOFS) clusters developed by ICAR in Meghalaya and Sikkim, Organic farming interventions and study made in Himachal Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, Organic poultry farming from Rajasthan and Godhan Nyay Yojana of Chhattisgarh. Complete document of case studies can be accessed at <https://justruraltransition.org/case-study/compendium-of-country-case-studies/>

ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Modipuram through All India Network Programme on Organic Farming have developed package of Practices for Organic production of 62 cropping systems suitable for 16 States and 8 IOFS models for 7 States to promote sustainable agriculture in India.

Source: ICAR-IIFSR, Modipuram



Address by Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare **Km. Shobha Karandlaje**



Sustainable agriculture entails taking a holistic approach to increasing agricultural productivity and resource management in order to address all three critical components of sustainability: they economy, the environment, and society. Major challenges in sustainable agriculture in India include increased climate variability, declining soil health, groundwater use, loss of biodiversity (including agro-biodiversity), and environmental pollution. To address these issues, the Government of India has implemented several programs and schemes over the years. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (through the All India Network Programme on Organic Farming (AINP-OF) under ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Modipuram) has been conducting multi-location long-term research on organic farming from 2004. This work has led to the development of several Integrated Organic Farming System (IOFS) models suitable for the agro-ecological conditions across India. IOFS models involve cropping systems (including high-value crops such as spices), livestock components, agroforestry, fodder production, and holistic societal development.

IOFS is a holistic and multidisciplinary approach that integrates several components on a single farm, thereby minimising the risk of farming communities.

It is essential for the efficient management of available resources at the farm level to: reduce environmental degradation, generate adequate income; enhance resource-use efficiency and recycling of farm by-products; provide balanced and nutritious food which is economically viable, socially acceptable, and environmentally sound; and create employment and improve farmers' livelihoods in a sustainable manner.

The Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) is among the schemes to encourage the adoption of organic farming. It was introduced in 2016 in the Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura states. The project aims to mobilise commodity clusters and facilitate the training of farmers, on-farm infrastructure development, organic certification services to farmers, and the creation of market linkages. In addition, lead agencies were established at the central and state levels to partner with value-chain-supporting agencies, service providers, and business development consultancies in order to provide access to information and finance to create an enabling environment for the sector's growth.

Over the six years of the MOVCDNER scheme, 170 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) have formed, covering 83,000 farmers, and 79,000 hectares of land has been certified as organic farmland. In addition, 141 postharvest and processing facilities and an end-to-end value chain have been developed for ginger, turmeric, chilies, large cardamom, pineapple, and speciality rice.

The scheme is now being scaled up, with a target to transform another 100,000 hectares of land and involve 100,000 farmers. The aim is to improve the sustainability of agricultural land in the northeast regions of India by promoting organic farming, limiting the use of chemical agents, generating sustainable livelihoods and promoting inclusive development, and encouraging sustainable and healthy diets.

“ Over 6 years, 79,000 hectares of land has been certified as organic farmland, with 83,000 farmers taking part. This is being scaled up in the North East to transform another 100,000 hectares of land and involve 100,000 farmers. ”

India Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare

Case Study – A holistic approach to sustainable agriculture in India JUST RURAL TRANSITION

Glimpse of Compendium