

a-IDEA, ICAR-NAARM organised Immersion Programme on Linking FPOs with Startups at Bengaluru

30th December, 2022

a-IDEA, Technology Business Incubator of ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad organised FPOs/FPCs, Farmers, Startups Immersion Programme at Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (KSTA), Bengaluru in collaboration with University of Horticultural Science Campus at Bengaluru on 30 December 2022 with an objective to connect the FPOs/ FPCs and the farmers of Karnataka with the startups supported by a-IDEA.

About 20 startups and 90 FPOs and farmers from different places across Karnataka attended the programme. Senior officials from NABARD, NGOs, CBBOs and officials from Watershed Development Department, Karnataka Science and Technology Academy, College of Horticulture, Bengaluru and other reputed organizations graced the event.



Prof. S. Ayyappan, Chairman, Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (KSTA), Bengaluru, Karnataka and Former Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR given presidential address. He discussed the role of profit in sustaining startups in the long run with the support of scientists for technology refinement, business planning and growth models play an important role in making a startup successful. FPOs can be considered as bulk suppliers to government agencies.

The Chief Guest Dr. M V Venkatesh, IAS, Commissioner, Watershed Development Department, GoK discussed the importance of understanding the needs of the farmers and catering to their needs as per their requirements by developing customized products.

Dr. Ch. Srinivas Rao, Director, ICAR NAARM, Hyderabad addressed during the inaugural that food wastage attributes to losses worth Rs 1 lakh crore. Hence, the startup should focus on reducing food losses, making wealth out of agriculture. Value addition is a necessity to avoid post harvest losses.

Dr. K S Mahesh, GM, NABARD, Regional Office, Bengaluru stated that FPOs are becoming the backbone of the nation and three M's such as Monsoon, Market and Money are play major role in creating impact on farmers and FPOs.



The startups presented their innovations, products and services and demonstrated its advantages. The event acted as an ultimate platform for networking between them for successful business transactions and for further collaboration with FPOs.