

Farmers Centered Extension (FCE) approach

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Technological perspectives with respect to socio-economic context of farmers

- ❖ Probability of risk**
- ❖ Cost associated**

Proper rainfed dryland technologies are those, which can reduce the risk of failure, produce optimum economic return and change the conservative attitude of the farmers

EXTENSION STRATEGY FOR DRYLAND AGRICULTURE

Farmers in the dryland areas do not have access to modern sources of information

Technology transfer in rainfed areas needs special attention because of problems unique to such areas

- ❖ A limited range of technologies is available from extension agencies for rainfed areas**
- ❖ These agencies need to initiate group action and mobilize communities to adopt rainfed farming technologies and manage natural resources**

FARMER-CENTERED EXTENSION

Assured farmer participation in technology development and dissemination is the key to success in dryland extension efforts because farmers have EXPERIENCE and LOCAL INSIGHT

“Farmers Centered Extension (FCE)”

**Extension approach works well in this direction where farmers
act as Principal agents of change**

FARMER-CENTERED EXTENSION

Extension approaches

1. Technology centered extension

Focus is on disseminating technology

2. Farmer centered extension

Promotes welfare of farmers by using technology

as a vehicle for development

FARMER-CENTERED EXTENSION

Why FCE ?

The farmer centered extension approach is more effective as it:

- ❖ Facilitates access to remote areas not easily served by extension agents
- ❖ Establishes quick and better rapport with the farming community
- ❖ Operate on a low budget
- ❖ Provides timely as well as efficient and effective extension services

Free communication
among farmers is the soul of FCE

FARMER-CENTERED EXTENSION

Who are all involved in FCE?

- ❖ Farmer extensionist
- ❖ Government extensionist agents
- ❖ Scientists
- ❖ NGO extensionist agents

Pillars of FCE

- ❖ Farmer
- ❖ Farmer extensionist
- ❖ Farmer groups
- ❖ Research and training institutions

FARMER-CENTERED EXTENSION

Strategies for FCE?

- ❖ **Formation of self-reliant groups**
- ❖ **Begin with informal organization**
- ❖ **Identification of farmer extensionist**
- ❖ **Equipping the farmer extensionist**
- ❖ **Formation of Farmers' Professional Association (FPA)**

**THE BEST EDUCATORS OF FARMERS ARE
FARMERS THEMSELVES**

Natural resources are community assets, so individual action (dryland areas) may not bear fruit. The difficult agro-economic situation calls for community action

Farmer-centered approach is participatory in nature, promotes the concept of human rights. Peoples upon motivation will participate and develops confidence, pride and a sense of responsibility