



GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS (GCWAS-2026)

**DRIVING PROGRESS,
ATTAINING NEW HEIGHTS**



 **12-14 March 2026**

 Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Hall, ICAR Convention Centre,
National Agricultural Science Complex (NASC),
Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012, India

Registration and Collection of Kit

Venue: Foyer (Front Area) of
AP Shinde Symposium Hall, NASC, New Delhi

11 March 2026 (Wednesday) from 10:00-21:00

12 March 2026 (Thursday) from 8:00-9:30

PROGRAM

www.gcwas.taas.in

Organizers and Co-Organizers

Organizers

 <p>Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)</p>	 <p>Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS)</p>	 <p>Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)</p>	 <p>Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV&FRA)</p>
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Co-Organizers

 <p>International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)</p>	 <p>Borlaug Institute of South Asia (BISA)</p>	 <p>International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)</p>	 <p>Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)</p>	 <p>Tata Cornell Institute (TCI)</p>	 <p>Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR)</p>	
 <p>International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</p>	 <p>Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)</p>	 <p>Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF)</p>	 <p>SM Sehgal Foundation (SMSF)</p>	 <p>CGIAR GENDER Equality and Inclusion (CGIAR GENDER)</p>	 <p>Bharatiya Krishak Samaj (BKS)</p>	 <p>Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources (ISPGR)</p>

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 <p>Mahyco Grow</p>	 <p>Corteva Agriscience</p>	 <p>Rasi Seeds</p>
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Silver Sponsors

 <p>Savannah</p>	 <p>Star Agri-Seeds</p>	 <p>Crystal Crop protection</p>	 <p>SeedWorks International</p>
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Knowledge Partners

 <p>M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF)</p>	 <p>Michigan State University</p>	 <p>International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)</p>	 <p>National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS)</p>	 <p>International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)</p>	 <p>Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)</p>
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Day 1: 12 March 2026 (Thursday)

11.00-12.00		Inaugural Session
11:00-11:05	Arrival of the Hon'ble President to the Dias	
11:05-11:10	National Song and National Anthem	
11:10-11:12	Lighting of the Lamp by the Hon'ble President	
11:12-11:15	Welcome Address	Dr Renu Swarup Former Secretary, Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Conference Chair
11:15-11:20	Speech by Special Invitee	Dr Agnes Kalibata Founder and Chair, Connect4Impact Advisory Group, Former Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Rwanda and Former President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
11:20-11:25	Speech by Chief Patron	Dr RS Paroda Chairman, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Science (TAAS)
11:25-11:27	Release of a Book and a Souvenir by Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and presentation of first copies to the Hon'ble President	
11:27-11:32	Speech by Guest of Honour	Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) and Union Minister of Rural Development
11:32-11:42	Address by Chief Guest	Smt. Droupadi Murmu Hon'ble President of India
11:42-11:47	National Song and National Anthem	
11:47-12:00	Departure of the Hon'ble President of India	
12:15-12:45		Tea/Coffee



12:45-13:45 Technical Session I

Interface with Global Women Trailblazers

Chair: Purvi Mehta, Senior Advisor, Global Center on Adaptation, New Delhi

Moderator: Anuradha Agrawal, Project Director, ICAR-DKMA, New Delhi

Rapporteur: Ruchi Bansal, Senior Scientist, Division of Plant Physiology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Agnes Kalibata, Founder and Chair, Connect4Impact Advisory Group, Former Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Rwanda and Former President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson, MSSRF, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted, World Food Laureate, WorldFish, Penang, Malaysia

Renu Swarup, Former Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi

Concluding Remarks by Chair

13:45-14:30 Lunch



14:30-16:20 Technical Session II

Driving Progress, Attaining New Heights

Co-Chairs: **T Mohapatra**, Chairperson, PPV&FRA, New Delhi

Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson, MSSRF, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Convener: **Seema Jaggi**, ADG (Agricultural Education), ICAR, New Delhi

Rapporteur: **Reshma Gill**, Senior Scientist, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, Telangana

Lead Lecture

14:30-14:45	Recognizing and Empowering Women through Aquatic Food Systems	Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted , World Food Laureate, WorldFish, Penang, Malaysia
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Invited Lectures

14:45-14:55	Two Million Women in Agriculture (including 5 min video)	Subroto Geed , President, South Asia, Corteva Agriscience, Hyderabad, Telangana
14:55-15:05	Gender-Transformative Strategies for Inclusive Innovation in Agri-Food Resilience	Maureen Miruka , Director, Gender Equity, Youth & Social Inclusion (GEYSI), CIMMYT, Mexico
15:05-15:15	Steering <i>Shree Anna</i> for Food, Nutrition and Livelihood Security of Small and Marginal Farmers - A Success Saga	C Tara Satyavathi , Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, Telangana
15:15-15:25	Building a Socially Responsible Enterprise in Emerging Markets - Role of Women	Josephine Okot , Vice Chair, IFDC and MD, Victoria Seeds Ltd., Uganda
15:25-15:35	A Woman Entrepreneur's Success in Innovative Agriculture Technology	Renuka Diwan , CEO, Bioprime Agrisolutions, Pvt Ltd, Pune, Maharashtra

contd.



Technical Session II contd.

15:35-16:10 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 min each)

Empowerment of Rural Women as Agri-Entrepreneurs through Seed Production Intervention in West Bengal

Sudeshna Panja, Sasya Shyamala Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RKMVERI, West Bengal

Socio-Economic Empowerment of Rural Women through Lavender Cultivation under the CSIR-Aroma Mission

Suphla Gupta, CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir

The Dairy Dynamo- Celebrating a Woman's Livestock Legacy

Sudharani N, ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shivamogga, Karnataka

Women as Catalysts of Change in Agri-Food Systems: Insights from Value Addition Enterprises in Thrissur, Kerala

Smitha KP, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, Kerala

Exploring Wholistic Empowerment of Women Beyond Income through Rural-enterprises: Insights from Women Group

Priti Priyadarshni, Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bihar

Synergistic Integration of Farm Enterprises: A Catalyst for Circular Bio-Economy

Maina Kumari, ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana

16:10-16:20 Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs

16:20-16:45 Tea/Coffee



16:45-18:50 Technical Session III

Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

Chair: Renu Swarup, Former Secretary, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), New Delhi

Moderator: Malavika Dadlani, Former Joint Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Rapporteur: Monika Dalal, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIPB, New Delhi

Lead Lecture

16:45-17:00 Policy as a Catalyst for Gender Equality in Agri-Food Systems **Nitya Rao**, Professor, Gender and Development, UEA and, Director, NISD, Norwich, UK

Panel Discussion (6-7 min each)

17:00-18:00 **Srivalli Krishnan**, Deputy Director, Agriculture Development - Asia, Gates Foundation

Arabinda K Padhee, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Revenue and Disaster Management, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Alessandra Galie, Team Leader-Gender, International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya

Pratibha Singh, Regional Manager, South Asia, ACIAR, New Delhi

Kajal Gulati, DAFRE, Michigan State University, East Lansing, USA

18:00-18:30 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 min each)

Women-Led Mission Navshakti - Hub & Spoke Cluster for Ornamental Fisheries (Mn-Hscof): A UN-FAO Globally Recognized Technical Model for Transformative, Sustainable and Innovative Livelihood Opportunities

Poonam Jayant Singh, ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

contd.



Technical Session III contd.

Youth Aspirations and Aquaculture Livelihoods: Implications for Ghana's Agrifood System

Sarah Appiah, International Water Management Institute, Accra, Ghana

State-Led Natural Farming and Women's Reproductive Labour: Exploratory Insights from Andhra Pradesh, India

Sandhya Kumari V, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Making Gender Visible in Agri-Food Adaptation: A Political Economy Analysis from Coastal Bangladesh

Sharmin Afroz, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Dhaka, Bangladesh

Gendered Dimensions of Groundwater Governance and Their Implications for Inclusive Agri-Food Systems

Manulaxmi Yadav, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, Maharashtra

Gender based Barriers in Access to Crop Seed Certification System: Implications for Resilient Seed Systems in the Haor Ecosystem of Bangladesh

Rehana Noor, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Bangladesh

18:30-18:40 Concluding Remarks by Chair

18:40-19:30 **Exhibition, Posters and Networking**

19:30-20:30 **Cultural Program**

20:30 onwards **Reception Dinner**

Sponsored by SM Sehgal Foundation



Day 2: 13 March 2026 (Friday)

9:00-10:00		Plenary Lectures
Co-Chairs: RS Paroda , Chairman, TAAS, New Delhi Nicoline de Haan , Gender and Youth Accelerator Director of CGIAR Platform, ILRI, Kenya Convener: RR Burman , ADG (Ag. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi Rapporteur: Kapila Shekhawat , Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi		
9:00-9:05	Brief Introduction of the Speakers and Co-Chairs	RR Burman , ADG (Ag. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi
9:05-9:25	Gender Equality and Equity for a Sustainable Agri- Food Future	Agnes Kalibata , Founder and Chair, Connect4Impact Advisory Group, Former Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Rwanda and Former President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
9:25-9:45	Did the Self-Help Group (SHG) Movement help Promote Rural Women's Empowerment and Market Participation?	Prabhu Pingali , Director, Tata Cornell Institute, Ithaca, USA
9:45-10:00	Felicitation and Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs	



10:00-11:30 Technical Session IV

Emerging and Disruptive Technologies for Gender-Transformative Change

Co-Chairs: Anil K Gupta, Founder, Honey Bee Network, SRISTI, GIAN & NIF, Visiting Faculty, IIM & Academy Professor, AcSIR, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Nitya Rao, Professor, Gender and Development, UEA and, Director, NISD, Norwich, UK

Convener: G Taru Sharma, Principal Scientist and O/C, Office of International Relations, ICAR-IVRI, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh

Rapporteur: Karuna Irungbam, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh

Lead Lecture

10:00-10:15 Role of Women-Centric Technologies in Transforming Agricultural Productivity and Livelihoods

Shireen Kamal Assem Abdelhalim, Vice President, Agricultural Research Center (ARC), Giza, Egypt

Invited Lectures

10:15-10:25 Women's Leadership in Soil Health, Sustainability and Resilient Production Models in Argentina

Paola Mariela Diaz, Agronomist and Member Aapresid & Rural Women Network, Buenos Aires, Argentina

10:25-10:35 Flipping Agricultural Extension with AI: Designing Digital Systems for Women Farmers

Nidhi Bhasin, CEO, Digital Green India

10:35-10:45 How Drones, AI, and Genomic Speed-Breeding are Useful to Bring in a Transformational Change for Women Farmers?

Mamta Sharma, Principal Scientist, ICRISAT, Hyderabad, Telengana

contd.



Technical Session IV contd.

10:45-11:20 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 min each)

Women Transforming
Agriculture: Inspiring Journeys
of Success and Empowerment

Tusar Ranjan Sahoo, ICAR-
ATARI, Zone X, Hyderabad,
Telangana

Economic Empowerment of
Women through Diversification
of Agricultural Enterprises -
Case Studies from ICAR-KVK,
Gadag, Karnataka

Sudha V Mankani,
ICAR-K H Patil Krishi Vigyan
Kendra, Hulkoti, Gadag,
Karnataka

Privacy Concerns in Phone
Surveys: How Speakerphone
Use Affects Response Bias in
Gender-Sensitive Questions

Vartika Singh, IFPRI,
New Delhi

Turning Fish into Fortune:
A Saga of Rural Women
Empowerment

S Sumathi, ICAR-Krishi Vigyan
Kendra, SCAD Thoothukudi,
Tamil Nadu

Making Space-based
Technologies Relevant in
Changing Indian Agriculture
Landscape

Kavya Kamepalli, AST
Advanced Space Technologies
GmbH, Germany

Green Matriarchs: Women
Farmers of Northeast India
Pioneering Climate-Smart
Agriculture through Perennial
Carbon Farming

Divya Parisa, ICAR-ATARI Zone
VII Umiam, Meghalaya

11:20-11:30 Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs

11:30-12:00 Tea/Coffee



12:00-13:50 Technical Session V

Building Women Leadership in the Agri-Food Sector

Co-Chairs: **Bram Govaerts**, Director General, CIMMYT-BISA, Mexico

Anjali Makhija, CEO, SMSF, New Delhi

Convener: **Bimlesh Mann**, Former ADG (Agricultural Education), ICAR, New Delhi

Rapporteur: **Anu Rahal**, Principal Scientist, ICAR-DKMA, New Delhi

Lead Lecture

12:00-12:15	Mentoring the Next Generation: Nurturing Young Women Leaders in Agri-Food Systems	Nicoline de Haan , Gender and Youth Accelerator Director of CGIAR Platform, ILRI, Kenya
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Invited Lectures

12:15-12:25	Reshaping Gender Dynamics and Leadership Roles to Transform Asian Food Systems	Tamara Jackson , University of Adelaide, Urrbrae, Australia
12:25-12:35	Planting the Pipeline: Women Who Will Shape Agri-Food Systems?	Shilpa Divekar Nirula , Partner at AgVaya LLP and Former MD of Monsanto India
12:35-12:45	Gender-Responsive Agricultural Research & Extension: Pathways for Equity and Equality	Mridula Devi , Director, ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
12:45-12:55	Advancing Women's Leadership in Agrifood Systems in India – A Compilation of Strategies	Meghajit Shijagurumayum , PDF, Multifunctional Landscape, Alliance BI-CIAT – India Office, New Delhi
12:55-13:05	The Strong, Robust Start up Ecosystem for Innovations in the Agrifood Systems in India: A Compilation of Strategies	Akriti Sharma , CEO, ZTM & BPD Unit, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

contd.



Technical Session V contd.

13:05-13:40 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 min each)

Reconfiguring Drudgery: Gender, Technology, and Lived Labour Burdens in the Eastern Gangetic Plains

Gunjan Rana, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)-India, New Delhi

Guardians of Agrobiodiversity: Decoding the Role of Women in Farmer-Led Conservation of Landraces in Odisha and Uttarakhand

Preeti Yadav, ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Zone III, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh

Synthesis of Agripreneurial Excellence: A Thematic Analysis of Women-Led Agricultural Enterprises

Sajesh VK, ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode, Kerala

Women as Custodians of Indigenous Food Systems: A Socio-Ecological Analysis of Tribal Communities in Nagaland, India

Amrutha T, ICAR-ATARI, Zone VII, Umiam, Meghalaya

Krishi Sakhi-Led Promotion of Natural Farming for Women Empowerment in North East Hills

Mandira Chakraborti, ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Tripura

Nutritional Vulnerabilities of Female Agricultural Workers in India's Unorganised Sector: Pathways, Occupational Risks, Seasonal Stressors and Policy Gaps

Divya Jain, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ferozepur, Punjab

13:40-13:50 Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs

13:50-14:30 Lunch



14:30-16:10 Technical Session VI

Empowering Women through Economic Inclusion

Co-Chairs: **Sanjay Kumar**, Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB), New Delhi

Purnima Menon, Senior Director, IFPRI, South Asia Office, New Delhi

Convener: **Gurinderjit Randhawa**, Former Head, ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi

Rapporteur: **Jasdeep Padaria**, Professor, ICAR-NIPB, New Delhi

Invited Lectures

14:30-14:40	Emerging Entrepreneurship Opportunities to Empower and Enrich Women Farmers	Alison Laing , CIMMYT-India, New Delhi
14:40-14:50	Fostering Gender-Transformative Institutions for Women's Economic Power in Climate-Stressed Agri-Food Systems	Dina Najjar , Senior Gender Scientist, ICARDA, Rabat, Morocco
14:50-15:00	From Beneficiaries to Economic Leaders: Reimagining Women's Role in Agriculture through Women-led FPOs	Shweta Singh , Community Partnership & Sustainability Lead, South Asia, Corteva, New Delhi
15:00-15:10	Solar Access Enabling Gender-Responsive Pathways in Agri-Food systems	Darshini Ravindranath , Project Lead, SoLAR, Research Group Leader - CPFP, IWMI, Sri Lanka
15:10-15:20	Unlocking the Potential of Value Addition and Market-Led Agribusiness for Women Farmers	Padmaja Ravula , Principal Scientist (Sociologist), ICRISAT, Hyderabad, Telangana
15:20-15:30	Leveraging Abundant and Abandoned Bioresources for Promoting Innovative and Inclusive Bioentrepreneurship	Anamika Dey , CEO, GIAN and Visiting Faculty, IIM and AcSIR, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

contd.



Technical Session VI contd.

15:30-16:00	Rapid Oral Presentations (5 min each)	
	Leading Change from Within: Strengthening Women’s Agency and Institutional Power in Agri-Food Systems	Kavitha Kasala , ICRISAT, Hyderabad, Telangana
	Beyond Credit: How Women’s Collectives Enable Market Participation in Rural Agri-Food Systems	Asmita Naik Africawala , Ambuja Foundation, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
	Who Benefits from SDG Synergies? Intersectional Insights from Kenya’s Dairy Sector	Rachel Gitundu , International Live Research Institute (ILRI), Nairobi, Kenya
	What Enables Women’s Economic Empowerment in Agri-food Systems? Emerging Evidence from South Asia and Australia	Vanita Yadav , Western Sydney University, Australia
	From Vulnerability to Viability: Climate-Resilient Agri-Food Futures for Marginalized Women in Eastern India	Deepa Joshi , IWMI-India, New Delhi
	Scaling Women-Led Livestock Collectives: From Farm Level Practice to Policy-Relevant Models	Jyotsna Laskar , Director, FPC, Khanda, West Bengal
16:00-16:10	Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs	
16:10-16:30	Tea/Coffee	



16:30-18:30 Technical Session VII

Gender Dynamics in Policy and Market Access

Chair: **RB Singh**, Former President, NAAS, New Delhi

Moderator: **Smita Sirohi**, Prof. Swaminathan Chair, ICAR National Professor, ICAR-NIAP, New Delhi

Rapporteur: **Pavithra Srinivasmurthy**, Senior Scientist, ICAR-NIAP, New Delhi

Lead Lecture

16:30-16:45 Women-Led Agricultural Cooperatives for Improving Market Access and Income Opportunities for Women Farmers: Challenges and Opportunities **CP Devanand**, Managing Director, NDDB Dairy Services, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Panel Discussion (6-7 min each)

16:45-17:45 **Timothy J Krupnik**, Director, CGIAR Scaling for Impact Program, CGIAR System Organization, Bangladesh

Nutan Kaushik, Director General, Amity Food & Agriculture Foundation, Amity University, Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Swati Nayak, Lead - Seed System & Product Management, IRRI South Asia, New Delhi

Vinny Madhuri Gnadham, Direct Seeded Rice Lead, Asia DSO Catalyst, Bayer Crop Science, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Neema Joshi, Associate Director, Partnerships and Fundraising, SMSF, Gurugram, Haryana

Surya Rathore, Principal Scientist, (Extension Information Systems), ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, Telangana

contd.



Technical Session VII contd.

17:45-18:20 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 min each)

Empowering Women through Plant-Based Milk Analogue Production Technologies

Khwairakpam Bembem, ICAR-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana, Punjab

Challenges and Prospects of Farm Women in the Cold Arid Ladakh

Jigmet Yangchan, School of Agriculture Science and Technology, University of Ladakh, J&K

Gender Gaps in Crop Commercialization: Evidence from the Eastern Gangetic Plains

Ezaboo, International Food Policy Research Institute, New Delhi

Tracing Gender Integration across Agricultural Policies supporting Diversification in the Eastern Gangetic Plains

Aditi Pradhan, School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, Adelaide University, Australia

An Assessment Study on the Use of Spring Brake Rake for Drudgery Reduction amongst Women Dairy Farmers of Uttarakhand

Deepti Kothari, Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Chamoli, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand

Women-Led Ornamental Plant Nurseries for Income Generation and Employment Creation

Rishika Choudhary, MPUAT, Udaipur, Rajasthan

18:20-18:30 Concluding Remarks by Chair



Evening Lecture

Co-Chair: Himanshu Pathak, Director General, ICRISAT, Hyderabad, Telangana
Raju Barwale, Chairman, Mahyco, Pvt Ltd, Mumbai, Maharashtra

Convener: Sonal Dsouza, Associate Manager, Partnerships for South Asia,
Alliance Bioversity-CIAT, India Office, New Delhi

18:30-18:35	Introduction of the Co-Chairs	Sonal Dsouza , Alliance Bioversity International-CIAT, India Office, New Delhi
18:35-18:40	Introduction of the Speaker	Raju Barwale , Chairman, Mahyco, Pvt Ltd, Mumbai, Maharashtra
18:40-19:05	National Initiatives on Women Empowerment	ML Jat , Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR, New Delhi
19:05-19:10	Remarks by Co-Chair	Himanshu Pathak , Director General, ICRISAT, Hyderabad, Telangana
19:10-19:15	Vote of Thanks	Rishi Tyagi , Conference Convener and Senior Consultant, TAAS, New Delhi
19:30-20:15	Presentation of TAAS Awards	
20:00 onwards	Dinner	Sponsored by Mahyco Grow Pvt Ltd



Day 3: 14 March 2026 (Saturday)

9:00-11:00 Technical Session VIII

Women Farmers Forum - Breaking the Stereotypes

Co-Chairs: Rajbir Singh, DDG (Ag. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi

Ajay Vir Jakhar, Chairman, Bhartiya Krishak Samaj, New Delhi

Moderator: Mridula Devi, Director, ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar

Rapporteurs: Anita Rani, Professor, GBPUAT, Pantnagar,
Uttarakhand

Lipi Das, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

09:00-09:05 Welcome and Introduction of Co-Chairs **Mridula Devi**, Director,
ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Panel Discussion (2 rounds of 5 min each)

09:05-10:50 **Sabarmatee** (Padma Shri Awardee), Sambhav (NGO), Nayagarh,
Odisha

Lahari Bai, 'Plant Genome Patron Kisan Samman' Awardee,
Dindori, Madhya Pradesh

Amelia Moreira, Project Director, Triple Resilience Program, IFDC,
Mozambique

Neelam Tyagi, Secretary, LJKSS, Muradnagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar
Pradesh

Nikki Pilonia Chaudhary, CEO, Mango Dairies, Pilibhit, Uttar
Pradesh

Savita Malik, Innovative IPM Practitioner, Jind, Haryana

Savitri Gaur, Chairperson, Samridhi Mahila FPC, Bundi, Rajasthan

Raimati Ghuria (Mandia Rani), Koraput, Odisha

Rubina Tabassum, Lavender Farmer, Budgam, Jammu and Kashmir

Tongbram Bijiyashanti Devi, Thanga Tongbram, Bishnupur, Manipur

10:50-11:00 Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs

11:00-11:30 Tea/Coffee



11:30-13:30 Technical Session IX

Youth Forum: Nurturing Next Generation of Agri-Food Leaders

Co-Chairs: Ch Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Shireen Kamal Assem Abdelhalim, Vice President, Agricultural Research Center (ARC), Giza, Egypt

Convener: Anupama Singh, Joint Director (Education) and Dean, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Rapporteurs: Monika A. Joshi, Professor-cum-Principal Scientist, Division of Seed Science and Technology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Veda Krishnan, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

11:30-11:51 Presentation by Two Winners of Bachelor Students Elocution Contest

First position: Devanshi Saini, ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar, Uttar Pradesh

Second position: Isha Shreyasi, Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna, Bihar

11:51-12:17 Presentation by Two Winners of Masters/PhD Students Elocution Contest

First position: Kaustabh Mohanty, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Second position: Keerthana Nayak N, UAS, Bengaluru, Karnataka

12:17-12:38 Presentation by Four Winner Teams of Ingenious Innovation Idea Contest

1. **Fathima Shima N A**, Team Sheshroom, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

2. **Emily Bwalei**, Team LOWI, Kenya

3. **Kripa Mary Spencer**, Team Zelbytes, KAU, Kerala

4. **Nishi Gandha**, Team Ecovion, IIT, Roorkee, Uttarakhand

12:38-13:00 Presentation by Successful Start-up and Innovative Women/Farmer

Himani Kaushik (Co-Founder Director), Compute Genomics Private Limited (Start-up)

Bharti Bhorla, Innovative Farmer Awardee, PKVM 2026

Pooja Gaur, Innovative Farmer Awardee, PKVM 2026

13:00-13:30 Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs

13:30-14:30 Lunch



Parallel Sessions on Rapid-Oral Presentations

Session A (Agni Hall)

Co-Chairs: AK Singh, Vice Chancellor, Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University (RLBCAU), Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh

Mywish K Maredia, Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics (AFRE), Michigan State University, USA

Convener: Radha Prasanna, Head, Division of Microbiology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Rapporteur: Deeba Kamil, Senior Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

11:30-13:20 (5 min each)

Challenges and Prospects of Farm Women in the Cold Arid Ladakh

Jigmet Yangchan, University of Ladakh, J&K

Training for Skill Development of Farm Women and their Children

Vaishavi Bhardwaj, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kaimur, Bihar

Unlocking Women's Entrepreneurship through Indigenous Food Systems in Northeast India

Amrutha T, ICAR-ATARI, Zone VII, Umiam, Meghalaya

Gendered Decision Making and Household Dietary Quality in South Asia: Evidence from Eastern Gangetic Plains

Bhuvana Narayana Rao, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)-India, New Delhi

Tradable-Return Model of Net-Zero Regenerative Agriculture Focussing Voluntary Carbon Market through Enhanced Crop Productivity and Improvement in Farmers' Livelihood

Malabika Debnath, Nadia Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Gayeshpur, Nadia, West Bengal

contd.



Session A contd.

Participation and Time Contribution of Women in Agriculture Who are not Counted as Worker

Anil Kumar, ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi

Techno-Socio Orientation of Farm Women and Role of Mountain Women in Sustaining Hill Dairy Farming

Bindia Dutt, CSK HPKV, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh

Women in India's Agri-Food Systems: Thematic Trends and Research Directions

Jaya Jumrani, ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi

Inclusive Leadership in Agri-Food: Integrating Women Farmers into Bihar's Agricultural Governance through JEEViKA and FPOs

Bineeta Satpathy, Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Bihar

Clinical Examination of Foxtail Millet-Based Food Products and their Implications on Biochemical Markers in Adults with Impaired Fasting Glucose

Aditi Sewak, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Punjab

Enhancing Women's Participation in Decision Making and Leadership of Urban Agricultural Cooperative in Kitwe

Mwaka Luguru, Kitwe City Council, Ghana

Designing Women Friendly Shrimp Peeling Solution through Participatory Approach

Pradip Tulshiram Lanjile, ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai, Maharashtra

Women-Led Climate-Smart Agriculture for Sustainable Livelihoods in Plateau Region of Odisha

Praveen Jakhar, ICAR-Central Institute For Women In Agriculture, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

contd.



Session A contd.

Development of Ergonomic Protective Garments and Devices for Pesticide Applicators and Device to Reduce Work Pressure among Farm Women in Chilli Destalking

Rachuri Prabhavathi, Dr
KL Rao Krishi Vigyan Kendra
Garikapadu ANGRAU,
Andhra Pradesh

Bio-Functional Cotton Fabric: An Eco-Friendly Innovation

Anita Rani, Gobind Ballabh
Pant University of Agriculture
and Technology, Pantnagar,
Uttarakhand

Gender-Inclusive Pathways for Nurturing Agricultural Advancement and Resilient Innovations (NAARI)

Lipi Das, ICAR-Central Institute
for Women in Agriculture,
Bhubaneswar, Odisha

13:20-13:30 Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs

13:30-14:30 Lunch



Session B (Prithvi Hall)

Co-Chairs: **JL Karihaloo**, Trustee, TAAS, New Delhi

Krishna Srinath, Former Director, ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Convener: **Anjali Anand**, Professor, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

Rapporteur: **Aditi Kunbu**, Senior Scientist, Division of Agricultural Chemicals, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

11:30-13:20 (5 min each)

Strengthening Entrepreneurship through Mental Well-Being of Farm Women

Rajinder Kaur, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Langroya, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, Punjab

Decentralised Renewable Energy Technologies and Gendered Livelihood Pathways in Agriculture

Arundhita Bhanjdeo, WRI India

A Study on the Potential of IoT and Smart Logistics in Leveraging Women Mushroom Growers in Muzaffarpur to Reclaim Market Capitalization

BC Anu, Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar

Leveraging Gender Responsive Technologies for Women Empowerment and Climate Resilience in Rice-based Cropping Systems

Sukanta Kumar Sarangi, ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Gender-Friendly Technologies for Drudgery Reduction in Banana and Cassava Farming

Chithra G, ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mitraniketan PO, Vellanad, Kerala

Design and Development of an Energy-Efficient Humidification System to Reduce Post-harvest Losses in Fruits and Vegetables

Naveenkumar GM, UAS(B), GKVK, Bengaluru, Karnataka

contd.



Session B contd.

Building Women-Led Rural Enterprises for Agricultural Transformation: An Approach Rooted in Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI)

Parvathy Prasad, WELL Labs, IFMR, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Strategic Development of a Vegan Field Pea-Derived Probiotic Frozen Dessert as a Functional Dairy Alternative

Aditi Choudhary, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Punjab

Leadership Development through Community Based Food Processing Venture

Y Prabhavati Devi, KVK, Imphal East, CAU, Imphal, Manipur

Climate Resilient Farming System for Enhancing Income and Nutrition Security among Farm Families

VK Marwalikar, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tuljapur, Maharashtra

Invisible Farm Women: Shaping the Future of Weed Management

Yogita Gharde, ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh

Microenterprise Development in Eastern India for Income Stability

Moumita Dey Gupta, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, WBCADC, Bankura, West Bengal

Mapping Gender-Based Disparities in Agricultural Labour across Punjab's Agro-Geographical Regions

Parminder Kaur, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Moga, Punjab

Invisible Labour, Unequal Gains: Gendered Disparities and the Promise of Women-Led Collectives in the Sundarbans

Kousik Mallick, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Narendrapur, West Bengal

contd.



Session B contd.

Women-Led Agripreneurship and Inclusive Innovation: Evidence from MANAGE-CIA Incubated Startups in India

Sandipamu Raahalya,
National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE),
Hyderabad, Telangana

Fostering She-Entrepreneurship vis-a-vis Marketing Linkage in MKSP and Non-MKSP Regions of Bihar: Feed forward Neural Network Architecture

Sudhanand Prasad Lal,
Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University,
Pusa, Bihar

13:20-13:30 Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs

13:30-14:30 Lunch



14:30-16:00 Valedictory Session

Co-Chairs: RS Paroda, Chairman TAAS, New Delhi

ML Jat, Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR, New Delhi

Chief Guest: Smt Annpurna Devi, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of India, New Delhi

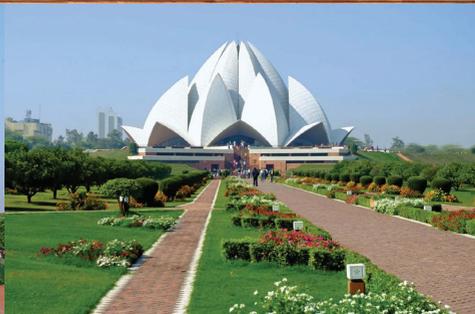
Anchor: Sonal Dsouza, Associate Manager, Partnerships for South Asia, Alliance Bioversity-CIAT, India Office, New Delhi

Rapporteur: Sherry Rachel, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi

14:30-14:40	Welcome Address	Rajbir Singh , Conference Co-Chair and DDG (Ag Extension), ICAR, New Delhi
14:40-15:00	Summary of Major Recommendations and Adoption of Delhi Declaration	Renu Swarup , Conference Chair and Former Secretary, DBT, New Delhi
15:00-15:30	Remarks by Co-Chairs	
15:30-15:50	Valedictory Address by Chief Guest	Smt Annpurna Devi , Hon'ble Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of India, New Delhi
15:50-16:00	Vote of Thanks	Rishi Tyagi , Conference Convener, TAAS, New Delhi

GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS (GCWAS-2026)

March 12-14, 2026



Conference Secretariat
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