



# GLOBAL OPPORTUNITY YOUTH NETWORK: RAMGARH

## है भविष्य युवा

### Minutes of working group workshop on sweet potato

#### Global opportunity youth network-GOYN Ramgarh

Date: 06.03.2021

Place: Ramgarh town

#### Background of the workshop:

Sweet potato emerged as a potential pathway in the research conducted by ADP during the foundation phase of GOYN. As next steps, an ideation workshop was conducted with the relevant stakeholders (Govt departments, farmers, youths and subject matter specialist). As an action point from the ideation workshop, it was decided to conduct a field assessment on sweet potato, as there is no open-source data available on the crop. This study would also form a basis on the specific interventions on sweet potato.

#### Objective of the workshop:

Co-designing and co-implementing are fundamental in GOYN. As we are moving ahead with sweet potato research, the workshop was conducted to share the research design -objective, methodology and tools to be used with the relevant stakeholders of the sweet potato working group. The aim is to engage the working group in the entire process of co-designing

#### Agenda:

- Welcome and context setting
- Recap & discussions on the findings/ action points from the last working group workshop around sweet potato
- Discussion & sharing of sweet potato value chain findings by ADP
- Sharing of research objective, process, methodology & tools along with the work done till now
- Sharing of workplan and involvement of YAG members & youth fellows in the study
- Feedback from the participants & specific comments by DDM, KVK, LDM & other MSAB members
- Discussion on next steps

#### Objectives of the study: (shared by the Agronomist)

- Identification of sweet potato production cluster in Ramgarh district
- Potential assessment of aggregation, grading and marketing activity at Ramgarh district
- Explore and connect with Private & institutional buyers/ processors in the terminal markets for sweet potato

- Identification of aggregation centers to be placed at strategic places and agriculture entrepreneurs from local youth who can operate these aggregation centres
- Detailed proposal for possible intervention around sweet potato value chain which can provide opportunity to 500-1000 opportunity youth in Ramgarh (input/ output linkage, aggregation, value addition, processing, etc)

#### **Key suggestions and discussions by the group:**

- The KII and FGD questionnaire has many open-ended questions, it was suggested by DDM & KVK scientist to modify the questionnaires into objective one, this would also be helpful in analyzing the findings
- The questionnaire format needs to be objectified with close ended questions (can also include data range, check box, introduce tables, etc.). This would standardize the format. As there will be youth fellows/ YAG members/ field mobilisers supporting the study, the standardized questionnaire would maintain data accuracy.
- The varieties of sweet potato grown (red/ pink/ white) shall also be captured in the study along with the existing production potential
- Potential product line of all the varieties of sweet potato grown locally shall be explored. This would give a clear picture of the existing opportunities which can be leveraged immediately
- If red variety of sweet potato is exclusively grown in Ramgarh district, steps can be taken for getting it GI tagged
- It was suggested by DDM to inform and involve the relevant line departments about the study. This would bring in the knowledge & perspective of the Government agencies in the study
- Farmers sell sweet potato vine in Rs10-15 per kg. there is scope of introducing sweet potato vine nursery as an additional source of income
- As nursery process starts in the month of May, TRIF team needs to start the field preparations for piloting orange flesh sweet potato cultivation. It was suggested by the team to pilot the new variety with 160 (approx..) farmers. The piloting fields shall also be branded by GOYN/TRIF
- KVK can play a technical role is supporting farmers with package of practices of sweet potato
- It was suggested by the farmers and KVK scientist, there is potential for introducing storage units for sweet potato
- It was suggested by the team to include the question on the different parts of sweet potato which are used by a household. For eg- sweet potato leaves are traditionally used as a fodder for cattle, tuber for human consumption and at times also fed to the cattle
- It was suggested by the team to include a question on the present irrigation practices used for sweet potato cultivation. This point would also help the technical team in identifying any new varieties of sweet potato which could be introduced on the basis of the irrigation pattern
- It was a joint suggestion to explore the supply chain of sweet potato in Odisha, as the state is one of the largest producers of the crop

#### **Action points and next steps:**

| Sr.No | Action points                                              | Timeline               | Person responsible |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.    | Modification of the questionnaires and per the suggestions |                        | Manish             |
| 2.    | Field testing of research tool                             | 8 <sup>th</sup> March  | Manish             |
| 3.    | Plan the field activities with Block team                  | 8 <sup>th</sup> March  | Manish             |
| 4.    | Research sharing workshop to be organized at Dulmi Block   | 15 <sup>th</sup> April | Swati              |

|    |                                                 |                        |                                      |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5. | Pilot for introducing orange flesh sweet potato | 31 <sup>st</sup> March | Swati to coordinate with Ashok Kumar |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|

**Members present:**

| <b>Sr.No</b> | <b>Name</b>        | <b>Organization</b>   |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 6.           | Upendra kumar Sah  | NABARD                |
| 7.           | Dharamjit Kherwar  | KVK                   |
| 8.           | Mayank Dhar Tiwary | LDM                   |
| 9.           | Jitendra Kumar     | RSETI                 |
| 10.          | Kiron Sankar Dutt  | Aragati               |
| 11.          | Manish Kumar       | Consultant            |
| 12.          | Bindu Kumari       | Youth Fellow          |
| 13.          | Sunita Kumari      | Youth Fellow          |
| 14.          | Ganesh Kumar       | Youth Fellow          |
| 15.          | Parmeshwar Bediya  | CEO, Producer's group |
| 16.          | Chutto Rajwar      | CEO Producer's group  |
| 17.          | Jaydev Bediya      | YAG member            |
| 18.          | Manish Kumar       | YAG member            |
| 19.          | Shyam Sundar Mahto | Field mobiliser       |
| 20.          | Bilal Ansari       | Field mobiliser       |
| 21.          | Prakash Karmali    | FPO member            |
| 22.          | Istiyak alam       | Field mobiliser       |
| 23.          | Abhishek Singh     | TRIF                  |
| 24.          | Swati Minz         | GOYN                  |