Centre of Cooperation for Excellence (IEI-CoCE) Program on Smart Agriculture & Smart Technologies for Villages & Industry

Mission Objective

To improve the socio-economic conditions of the farmers and development of the villages to international standards.

Mission Overview

The mission IEI CoCE for Smart Agriculture adopts a **practical & collaborative approach, distinct from prevailing R&D programmes**, to develop needs driven solutions, through research, system integration or hybrid approaches, addressed by joint teams comprising of agricultural and technology experts, ensuring viable and successful implementation with long-term sustainability.

Target Segment

Nearly **6.5 lakh villages** and their farmers acros India.

Background

Conceptualized as an International Research & Innovation (R&I) cooperation program on Smart Technologies, the programme at present, is largely India centric. However, in due course, the experience of this program could be spread to other countries as well. This would also help augment the prevailing India-EU cooperation on Research & Innovation.

In India, currently our focus is on Smart Agriculture and Villages, making it a long-term Industry-Academia cooperation programme on solution-oriented Research and Development.

Program Differentiator

Conventionally the research projects are developed independently by Technological or by the Agricultural institutes. The lack of cross domain expertise and awareness of "end user requirement" creates gaps between actual needs and the developed solutions leading to failures.

This program the joint projects teams of the experts from both the domain, agriculture and the technology address the entire spectrum of agricultural needs & requirements across India.

The **key differentiator** of this programme is it's need-based topic selection, collaborative solution development and the KPIs of each project are their **successful field implementation, farmers and industrial adoption**. The projects under the programme are interrelated and focused on meeting the overall program objective.

Consortium, Teams & Approach

The IEI CoCE initiative is a consortium of technological and agricultural research institutes (10 Tech, 4 Agri), working collaboratively as a team. The consortium addresses:

1. Assessment of Needs & Requirements (NR) – Through extensive study by the agricultural experts across India to arrive at the NR list of topics for solution developments.

2. Topics Selection for Solution Development - The technology experts then select the topics followed by formation of joint project teams for the project to work collaboratively to develop the solutions as per the Government approvals.

This smart agriculture program ensures that the solutions developed are practical and viable for field deployment and also capable of taking up by the industry partners for mass development & ustilisation.

The consortium believes that this collaborative, solution oriented approach will lead to significant advancements in agricultural practices by the farmers and benefit them across the nations.