



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

## SDG-wise Benefits of Natural Farming **APCNF** in Andhra Pradesh



## **Andhra Pradesh Community managed Natural Farming (APCNF), Rythu Sadhikara Samstha, Government of Andhra Pradesh, INDIA**

- 1.8 million farm families, 30% of all farmers, transitioning to Climate resilient, Natural Farming
- 365 Days Green Cover of Diverse Crops, Low-Cost and natural inputs based Farming
- Driven by Government Vision, Led by Women collectives and Champion Farmers, Backed by Science and National and Global collaborations
- Improving health of Soil, Crops, Farmers and Consumers



# 1 NO POVERTY



- Increases net farm incomes - 19–36% increase in the 1<sup>st</sup> year
- Long-term income growth with 3–5X income enhancement models (A-grade model, ATM model)
- Low transition cost - ₹25,000 (250 USD) over 8 years per farmer covered by the Government makes it accessible to poor farmers
- Special focus on landless laborers through homestead farming and leased land. Monthly income generation [₹5,000 (55 USD)–₹15,000 (166 USD)] for small plots of cropland



Direct poverty eradication through climate  
resilient, stable, rising livelihoods

# 2 ZERO HUNGER



- Increased and stable food production even in rainfed and degraded lands
- 365-day green cover enables multiple crops per year
- ATM and diversified models ensure household food security, throughout the year
- Restoration of degraded lands expands productive food systems



More food, more diversity, more resilience

# 3

# GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



- Elimination of synthetic chemicals improves public health and food safety
- Demonstrated positive health outcomes in all 4000 villages
- Reduced exposure of farmers and consumers to endocrine disruptors and pesticides
- Integration with Pre schools (Anganwadis) and schools in 400 pilot villages to promote health of pregnant women, nursing mothers, infants, children and adolescent girls



Healthier food systems and reduced disease burden

# 4 QUALITY EDUCATION



- Establishment of Indo-German Global Academy for Agroecology (IGGAARL)
- Creation of Farmer Scientists through a 4-year field-based program
- Continuous learning via farmer-to-farmer extension



Knowledge-driven agricultural transformation

# 5 GENDER EQUALITY



- 3 million women, organized into Self Help Groups are the backbone of sustenance and expansion of APCNF
- 60% of farmer trainers, Community Resource Persons (CRPs) are women



Women as leaders, innovators, and change agents

# 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



- Irrigation requirement reduced by 50%
- Improved soil moisture retention
- Enhanced water cycling and water quality through soil biology
- Reduced chemical runoff into water bodies including the oceans, as Andhra Pradesh has a 975 km coastline



Efficient water use, reduced contamination and cleaner water bodies

# 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



- Reduced dependence on energy-intensive synthetic chemical fertilizers and pesticides
- Lower irrigation demand reduces energy required for pumping water
- Longer shelf life of naturally farmed produce reduces energy need for cold chains



Significant energy savings

# 8

# DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



- Stable and growing farm incomes
- Local employment through farmer trainers and Self-Help Group Networks
- Strong rural economic multiplier effects
- Voluntary participation ensures dignified livelihoods



Inclusive and sustainable rural economic growth

# 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



- Global innovation: Pre-Monsoon Dry Sowing (PMDS)
- Large-scale demonstration of regenerative agriculture in over a million acres of cropland
- Knowledge infrastructure through global research partnerships



Agricultural innovation at planetary scale

# 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



- Focus on small and marginal farmers (80%)
- Tailored low-cost, farmer led practices
- Inclusion of landless workers and poorest households



Equity-centered agricultural transformation

# 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



- Strengthened rural resilience reduces distress migration
- Improved rural health, food security, and livelihoods
- Community-managed, village-level institutions strengthened



Resilient rural communities supporting sustainable development



# 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



- Synthetic chemical-free production systems
- Reduced external inputs and waste
- Circular nutrient and water cycles



Sustainable, regenerative production systems

# 13 CLIMATE ACTION



- High resilience to floods, droughts, cyclones, and pests
- Cooling effect from 365-day green cover
- Research by Potsdam and other Institutes confirms climate mitigation potential
- Reduced emissions from avoided fertilizers and irrigation



CHEMICAL  
FARMING

NATURAL  
FARMING

Already the world's largest  
climate-resilient farming program

# 14 LIFE BELOW WATER



- No chemical runoff into rivers, lakes, and coastal waters
- Reduced groundwater depletion
- Improved watershed health



Healthier aquatic ecosystems

# 15 LIFE ON LAND



- Restoration of degraded lands
- Increased biodiversity (soil, crops, insects, bees and birds)
- Improved soil health, moisture, and temperature regulation



Regeneration of terrestrial ecosystems

# 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



- Strong community institutions (SHGs, village federations)
- Voluntary participation builds trust and legitimacy
- Transparent, farmer-led governance model



Social cohesion and institutional strength

# 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



- Partnerships with UNEP, FAO, UNDP, BMZ, GASP, global universities, philanthropies
- Delegations from 55 countries and 22 Indian states have visited the program and APCNF being replicated in 22 States and 3 countries
- Many more are working to replicate the best practices in their own spheres of influence
- Global research and knowledge-sharing platforms



APCNF as a global public good



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