ABOUT ICRISAT

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is a non-profit, non-political organization that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa with a wide array of partners throughout the world. Covering 6.5 million square kilometers of land in 53 countries, the semi-arid tropics has over 2 billion people and 644 million of these are the poorest of the poor. ICRISAT and its partners help empower these poor people to overcome poverty, hunger and a degraded environment through better agriculture.

ICRISAT is headquartered in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India, with two regional hubs and four country offices in sub-Saharan Africa. It belongs to the Consortium of Centers supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

Want to start an Agribusiness?

WE NURTURE VENTURES TO TAKE OFF...
AT AGRI-BUSINESS INCUBATION (ABI) PROGRAM-ICRISAT
The Agri-Business Incubation (ABI) program is an initiative of ICRISAT under the Agribusiness and Innovation Platform (AIP) in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, to promote public-private partnerships. ABI-ICRISAT is a pioneering initiative for Agri-Business Incubation in India that maximizes the success quotient of start-up enterprises by offering them best opportunities with minimum risk.

MISSION
Promoting agribusiness ventures through technology development and commercialization that benefit the SAT farmers directly or indirectly through incubation services in seed, biofuel, farms, agri-biotech or innovative ventures.

OBJECTIVES
The objectives of the ABI-ICRISAT are:
- To foster the innovation through creation, development of agri-businesses to benefit the farming community
- To facilitate agro-technology commercialization by promoting and supporting agribusiness ventures.
- To promote successful agribusiness ventures in order to benefit the farmers through new markets, products and services.
The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), operates the National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) funded by World Bank to provide technological support to farmers through development of new strategies, technologies and innovative solutions. NAIP under Component-I, has entrusted ABI-ICRISAT, with the responsibility of handholding and mentoring of 10 Business Planning and Development units or Incubators of the ICAR and SAUs.

National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB) of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) is designed as an institutional mechanism to promote knowledge driven and technology-intensive enterprises. They have given the initial financial support to establish ABI-ICRISAT.

Technopreneur Promotion Program (TePP) is an initiative of Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR), focusing on lending financial support to individual innovators / firms for converting their novel ideas into working prototypes / models. ABI-ICRISAT is a TePP outreach center (TUC) facilitating innovators of Andhra Pradesh to commercialize their innovative technologies in agribusiness.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises-Development Organisation (MSME-DO) provides a wide spectrum of services to the small industries sector through MSME scheme, nurturing innovative business ideas (new/ingenious technology, process, products, procedures etc) which could be commercialized in a year, through onsite incubation at Research Institutes and State Agricultural Universities.

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The Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of Andhra Pradesh (ALEAP) was established with an aim to bring together women entrepreneurs trying to help each other and work in collaboration for welfare maximization. ABI-ICRISAT collaborates with ALEAP to promote agribusiness entrepreneurship by providing agribusiness incubation support, facilitate technology transfer, facilitation in incubation process and training and support to entrepreneurs and innovators.

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SPECIALIZED BUSINESS INCUBATION SERVICES

a) SEED VENTURES
Seed Business Incubation (SBI) is an initiative to develop and promote rural seed business ventures at village level in order to bridge the demand and supply gap of open pollinated quality seeds through public, private and people partnership.

b) BIOFUEL VENTURES
A Biofuel Venture is an initiative to promote sweet sorghum-based ethanol industry and other agricultural products.

c) AGRI-BIOTECH VENTURES
ABI-ICRISAT facilitates seed companies in the emerging area of agri biotech, in developing transformation protocol for commercial crops, marker development for traits of interest and tissue culture for medicinal, horticultural, and tree crops.

d) INNOVATIVE VENTURES
ABI-ICRISAT promotes innovative ventures in agri-business which are proprietary products or novel service and have good market potential.

e) FARM VENTURES
ABI-ICRISAT promotes farm ventures in the area of Contract farming, Organic farming, and Precision farming.

f) SOFT LANDING
ABI-ICRISAT provides services to foreign companies, when they come and want to establish their business in a new country.
PARTNERSHIPS

CO - BUSINESS INCUBATION

ABI has been serving agripreneurs through institutional partnerships. The objectives of the co-business incubation through institutional partners are:

- To enhance support and services to more number of entrepreneurs
- To complement technology and business in their respective domains
- Provide access to physical, technical and other facilities for clients on co-business incubation basis
- To facilitate inclusive growth through focused implementation of new venture creation and technology commercialization
- To enhance success of incubatees by networking

To promote cross border ventures and business development
To provide a common branding for better marketability of the programs
To strengthen our business incubation services we have partnered with leading institutes globally. They include:
- IIAM, Mozambique
- AREU, Mauritius
- TNAU, Coimbatore, India
- 10 Indian NARS through NAIP-ICAR
- STEP, Thapar University, Patiala, India

NETWORK OF INDIAN AGRI-BUSINESS INCUBATORS - NIABI

The NAIP of ICAR has initiated the setting up of 10 Business Planning and Development (BPD) units, in its Research Institutes and State Agriculture Universities (SAU’s) through a World Bank aided project of NAIP. BPD’s are essentially business incubation drivers designed for agricultural sector to promote ‘agripreneurs’ with help of vast R&D facilities and knowledge of ICAR. All the 10 BPD units and the ABI-ICRISAT, have joined hands to form a Network of Indian Agri-Business Incubators (NIABI)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Network of Indian Agri-Business Incubators - NIABI</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Center</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Agri Business Incubation (ABI) program</td>
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<tr>
<td>IAP-ICRISAT, Hyderabad</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Northern Region</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi</td>
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<td>2. Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCSHAU), Hisar</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Southern Region</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore</td>
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<td>5. Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Cochin</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Central Region</strong></td>
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<td>6. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (JNKVV), Jabalpur</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Western Region</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Birsa Agricultural University (BAU), Ranchi</td>
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<td>8. National Institute of Research on Jute &amp; Allied Fibre Technology (NIRJAFT), Kolkata</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Eastern Region</strong></td>
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<td>9. Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology (CIRCOT), Mumbai</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Anand Agricultural University (AAU), Anand</td>
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IMPACT

Farming community:
- Access to markets for 3 agro products
- Increased the profits of the farmers ventures worth $13.2 million
- Enhanced convenience of farmers through new tools and services like mobile based extension services, handy cotton harvester etc.

Agribusiness Community
- Incubated 650 agribusiness ventures
- Facilitated funding to 23 ventures worth $13.2 million
- More than 650 entrepreneurs trained
- Assisted in the commercialization of 34 agro-technologies
- Direct employment generated in the rural community was 832
- Funding assistance for 40 ventures

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS
- National Award for the Best Incubator in 2005 from Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India
- Asia Pacific Association of Business - Incubators (AABI) award in the year 2008
- Villgro award 2009
- ABI Client Rusri Distilleries won the Best Social Entrepreneur of the Country by the Prime Minister of India in the year 2006
- ABI client AAI, won the FAPCCI Award for Rural development
- Bagged the Best Agribusiness Incubator Award by FICCI FOOD 360 in 2013