

Summary

NTP Audit of Sustainable Agriculture and Surface Irrigation schemes **(16th June to 20th June 2025) at iCED Jaipur**

International Centre for Environment Audit & Sustainable Development (iCED) organized a National Training Programme on “Audit of Sustainable Agriculture and Surface Irrigation schemes” from 16th to 20th June, 2025 at its campus. A total of 37 participants from 24 field offices including 05 group officers participated in the training programme.



Participants of National Training Programme on “Audit of Sustainable Agriculture and Surface Irrigation schemes” from 16th to 20th June 2025

The training programme was inaugurated by Dr. Abhishek Gupta, Director General, iCED. He extended a warm welcome to all participants of the training programme and highlighted the significance role in auditing of Govt. Scheme in the field of Agriculture and Irrigation.

This NTP marks a strategic move by C&AG to build institutional capacity for robust auditing of agriculture and irrigation interventions—key components in India’s agenda for sustainable development, water security, and climate resilience.

The Director General of iCED highlighted that in an era marked by climate uncertainty, water scarcity, and the pressing need for sustainable growth, the role of public auditors has expanded far beyond traditional financial oversight. We now stand as critical enablers of policy effectiveness and systemic improvement.



Director General, iCED and Dy. Director (T&R) during the inauguration of the National Training Programme on Audit of Sustainable Agriculture and Surface Irrigation schemes

During this five-day, experts from IA&AD and various reputed organizations like many reputed organizations like Native Foodscape Foundation, WALMI, Aurangabad, IIT Roorkee, National Institute of Agricultural Economics and policy Research, New Delhi, ICAR, IIM, Ahmedabad, NRSC Hyderabad, Rajasthan Agriculture Research Institute- Durgapura, were invited to deliver the sessions on various aspects Agriculture and surface irrigation schemes in auditing perspective. The teaching methods during the training programme included formal lectures, field visit and discussion sessions.



1. Field visit: Plantation at Village Danta Ramgarh a desert area.

2. Field Visit: Drip Irrigation and Zozoba Farming at village Danta Ramgarh

The training programme covered a comprehensive range of topics such as Impact of climate change on yields of major food crops in India: Implications for food security; Building Resilient Agri-Systems: Drought Resistance, Corporate Farming, and Farmer Empowerment; Groundwater Irrigation and Its Regulation: Challenges and

Opportunities; Evaluating the Effectiveness of Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation Systems in India; Agriculture Policies & Implementation with special reference to SDGs (SDG 2 and 6): Performance Trends and Challenges; Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Horticulture; Climate-Resilient Horticultural Practices; Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) - Examination of Objectives, Benefits, Significance, Issues & Challenges; Use of GIS and Remote Sensing for auditing Government Efforts in Improving Agricultural Ecosystems ;and Soil Fertility and Fertilizer Management: A Pathway to Enhanced Agricultural Productivity etc.



Field Visit to Danta Ramgarh: A farm pond with a capacity of 15 lakh liters, filled by rainwater, is effectively supporting agriculture in drought-prone areas."

Details of the trainers and the session(s) delivered during this training programme are as follows.

Sl. No.	Session/s	Trainer/s
1.	Impact of climate change on yields of major food crops in India: Implications for food security	Dr. Chubbamenla Jamir, Director, Native Foodscape Foundation
2.	Building Resilient Agri-Systems: Drought Resistance, Corporate Farming, and Farmer Empowerment	Dr. Harshada Deshmukh, Professor, WALMI, Aurangabad
3.	Groundwater Irrigation and Its Regulation: Challenges and Opportunities	Dr. Idhaya Chandhiran I., Assistant Professor, IIT Roorkee
4.	Evaluating the Effectiveness of Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation Systems in India	Dr. Idhaya Chandhiran I., Assistant Professor, IIT Roorkee
5.	Agriculture Policies & Implementation with special reference to SDGs (SDG 2 and 6): Performance Trends and Challenges	Dr. P S BIRTHAL, Principal Scientist, National Institute of Agricultural Economics and policy Research, New Delhi
6.	Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Horticulture	Dr Gopal Lal, Joint Director and Acting Director ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management
7.	Climate-Resilient Horticultural Practices	Dr Gopal Lal, Joint Director and Acting Director ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management
8.	Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) - Examination of Objectives, Benefits, Significance, Issues & Challenges	Dr. Sukhpal Singh, Professor, IIM, Ahmedabad
9.	Use of GIS and Remote Sensing for auditing Government Efforts in Improving Agricultural Ecosystems	Dr. V. M. Chowdary, Scientist, NRSC Hyderabad
10.	Soil Fertility and Fertilizer Management: A Pathway to Enhanced Agricultural Productivity	Dr. A.S. Baloda, Network Coordinator, AINP on SAP, Division of Entomology, Rajasthan Agriculture Research Institute, Durgapura
11.	Performance Audit on Surface Irrigation in Odisha	Shri Prinson Varghese, Sr. DAG

Comprehensive feedback on course designing, the time required, content, knowledge and its delivery by the resource persons and facilities available at iCED was also collected from the participants through the SAI Portal. **The average feedback of the participants is 9.28 out of 10, which is very encouraging. Session(s) on “Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) - Examination of Objectives, Benefits, Significance, Issues & Challenges” has been rated as the best session with 9.6 points.**

The training programme concluded with a valedictory session chaired by the Director General of iCED. In his address, he extended heartfelt thanks to all participants and faculties for their participation in the programme. He underscored that fostering a responsible and resilient agricultural economy hinges on our ability to monitor progress and address the pressing challenges facing the agriculture sector. He emphasized the crucial role of sustainable practices within agriculture and irrigation schemes for ensuring long-term food security and rural livelihood resilience.



(R-L) Director General iCED and Dy. Director ((T&R) during the valediction of the National Training Programme on “Audit of Sustainable Agriculture and Surface Irrigation schemes”.