



**SAARC**  
Disaster Management Centre (IU)



**Regional Workshop**  
on  
**Assessing Drought Risks using Earth Observation Data**  
&  
**Launch of South Asia Drought Management System (SADMS)**  
*Utility of SADMS tool for operational drought decision support across South Asia*

**Date: 31st August to 2nd September, 2022**

**Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India**

# Session – III Drought Management efforts in South Asia

**India**

## Drought Management efforts in South Asia

**Dr VK Singh, Dr KV Rao, Dr JVNS Prasad & Dr SK Bal**

**ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad, India**

## Management of drought: Current scenario

- ❖ **Crop Weather Watch Group at Central and State Governments- Monitoring on weekly basis- Multiple agencies involvement**
- ❖ **Relief Commissioners at States play a key role. Gets information from various departments during the season**
- ❖ **Disaster Management Institutes are one of the important set up**
- ❖ **NDRF and SDRF exists-States are supported through federal government assistance**
- ❖ **Mobilization of inputs and transfer to affected areas**
- ❖ **Technical support extended by National Agricultural Research and Education system (NARES) lead by ICAR**

# Current policies for drought management

## Comprehensive guidelines exist for

- ❖ **Monitoring & early warning**
- ❖ **Declaration**
- ❖ **Response and relief**
- ❖ **Mitigation**

**Processes are devised by Federal Government**



# Drought resilience initiatives across multiple sectors

## Initiatives on Drought Management

- Real time Management
- Long term measures
- ❖ Federal Government
- ❖ State Government

**Focus is to work with long term measures for drought proofing**

**During the periods of severe drought, short term measures were implemented to provide sufficient work to water storage infrastructure**

# Drought resilience initiatives across multiple sectors

## Drought Management- Long term measures

**Infrastructure development for monitoring- More in drought prone areas**

## Major programmes

- ❖ **National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture**
- ❖ **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme**
- ❖ **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchay Yojana (PMKSY)-**
  - ❖ **Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Program- Augmenting Water Storage**
  - ❖ **Integrated Watershed Management program**
  - ❖ **Micro Irrigation**

# Drought resilience initiatives across multiple sectors

## Major departments which are involved include

- **Department of Rural Development**
- **Department of Agriculture and allied departments**
- **Department of irrigation**

## Major initiatives include

- **Food for work**
- **Dryland Horticulture**
- **Micro Irrigation Project**
- **Rural Livelihoods Program**
- **Synergy between IWMP and MGNREGA**
- **Fodder banks program**
- **Ground water efficient utilization**
- **River Linking Program**

## Drought Adaptation Initiatives by states

- ❖ **Maharashtra- Dryland Agriculture Mission**
- ❖ **AP – Water and Development**
- ❖ **Karnataka- Krishi Bhagya**
- ❖ **Telangana- Mission Kakatiya**
- ❖ **Rajasthan- Mukhya mantri Jala Swabhilamban Program**
- ❖ **Madhya Pradesh- Farm Ponds Program**
- ❖ **Orissa- Initiative on drought management Program**

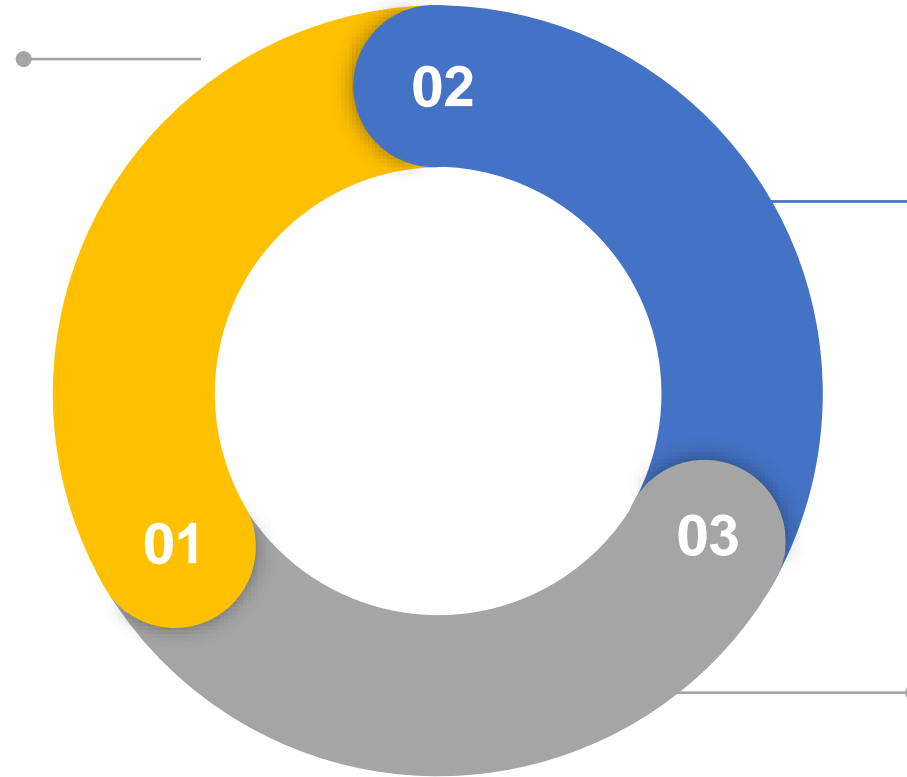
**NICRA- National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture- Demonstration of resilient technologies in selected villages**

**Drought proofing action plans at district level**

# Drought Management- Realtime

## Pre season

- ❖ Seasonal forecast
- ❖ Interface meeting- Federal initiative
- ❖ Inputs supply arrangement
- ❖ Mobilisation of farming communities.



## During season

- ❖ Rainfall monitoring- Sub divisional, District, sub district level etc
- ❖ Crop sown status monitoring
- ❖ Dryspells, Deficient rainfall
- ❖ Advisories to Dept and farming community

## Post rainy season

- ❖ Groundwater recharge prospects
- ❖ Crop choices identification
- ❖ Need based water management interventions



# Current procedure to declare a drought

- **Responsibility vests with State Governments**
- **Based on rainfall , derived parameters, soil moisture based, hydrology based and RS based parameters**
- **Need to comply with Trigger 1 and Trigger 2**
- **Parameters for Trigger 1: Rainfall related indices: Rainfall Deviation/ SPI and Dryspell**
- **Parameters for Trigger 2 (Impact Indicators):**
  1. **Remote sensing based indices: VCI based on NDVI and NDWI**
  2. **Crop situation related indices: Crop area sown**
  3. **Soil related indices: PASM, MAI,,**
  4. **Hydrology related indices: Reservoir storage index, Groundwater drought index, Surface flow drought index**
- ❖ **Any three of four impact indicators can be considered**
- ❖ **Early declaration of drought also can be considered by August if Trigger 1 is met and reduction in sown area**

## Current procedures & policies to promote timely contingency measures

### The District Agricultural Contingency Plans

- Delay in monsoon onset
- Breaks in monsoon leading to early, mid and late-season droughts
- Delayed or limited release of water for irrigation
- Floods
- Unseasonal rains
- Extreme weather events: Heat wave, Cold wave, Frost, Hailstorm, Cyclone

District - **Administrative unit for operationalization** of any action plan

#### Approach for development:

- ❖ States make use of these plans
- ❖ Interface meeting with state governments

Bottom-up involving district level scientists of Agricultural Research Stations and KVKs of SAUs

46 State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and 8 ICAR institutes

## Future needs and expectations

- **Capacity building-** all relevant stakeholders including farming communities
- **Funds availability-** Monitoring, mitigation (short and long term measures)
- **Adaptation of state of the art tools and assimilation of technical inputs**
- **Customization with state specific data**
- **Development of protocols for crop specific drought identification**
- **Real time data availability of RS based parameters**
- **Forecasting capabilities**
- **Timely dissemination of information etc**

Thank you