



CFI Research Grant Planning Workshop

16-18 June 2026
Jain Hills, Jalgaon

Presenter: Ganesh Bedare

Date: 16 June 2026

1. Project Snapshot



- Project title: Testing different farming practices of fruit production aiming farm sustainability and environmental well being
- Institution: BAIF Development Research Foundation, Pune, Maharashtra
- Principal Investigator: Ganesh Bedare
- Project duration: 36 months
- Budget: 30 L
- Project location(s): Madhugiri, Karnataka

2. Landscape, problem statement & target communities



• Agroecological context

- Limited availability of nutritious foods such as fruits and vegetables at the household level
- Limited access to quality fruit planting materials,
- Soil health management practices, and diversified farming systems
- The monocropping and use of high doses of agrochemicals
- Degradation of the ecosystem wellbeing at the farm.
- The use of bio inputs for the horticultural production is not often practiced.

• Key challenges being addressed

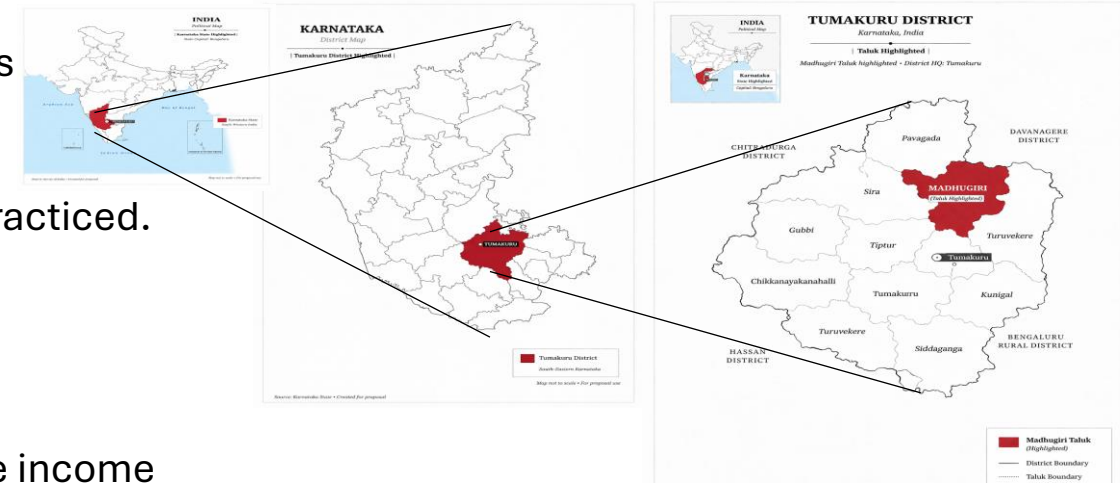
- Rain-fed agriculture and limited crop diversity
- Climate variability and erratic rainfall.
- The predominance of seasonal field crops often results in unstable income
- Limited availability of nutritious foods such as fruits and vegetables at the household level

• Target beneficiaries

- 20 Farmers – Direct beneficiaries
- 200 Farmers – Indirect beneficiaries (Training)

• Project landscape

- Semi-arid climatic conditions, erratic rainfall, and predominantly rain-fed agriculture.
- Average annual rainfall of about 600–700 mm,
- Rainfall is often erratic and unevenly distributed



3. Year-1 Implementation plan

Site establishment:

- Farmer Selection and Meetings – FGD's
- Grafts Procurement
- Orchard Establishment
- Intercropping Planning – Kharif and Rabbi
- Bee keeping

Nursery development activities

- Establishing one nursery unit

Demonstrations sites

- Establish seasonal demonstration units' vegetable cultivation
- Bee keeping
- Biofertilizers
- Bio inputs application

Capacity building programme planned

- Trainings at Lakkihalli training centre
- Farmer field schools

Target community engagement

- Farmers
- Women farmers
- Youths



4. Fruit Species and production models



Key fruit species promoted

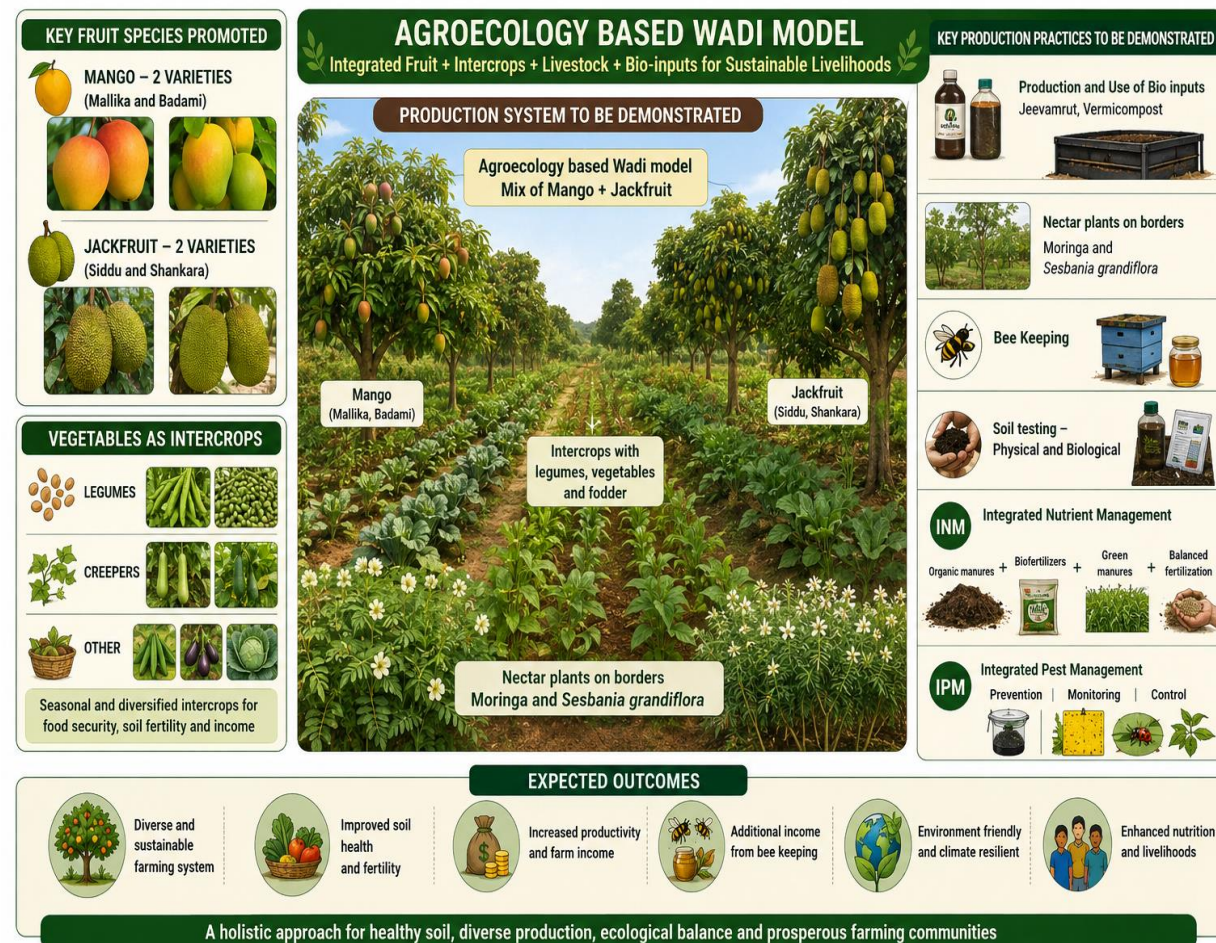
- Mango – 2 Varieties (Mallika and Badami)
- Jackfruit – 2 Varieties (Siddu and Shankara)

Vegetables as intercrops –

- Legumes
- Creepers
- other

Production systems to be demonstrated

- Agroecology based Wadi model – Mix of Mango + Jackfruit
- Intercrops with legumes, vegetables and fodder
- Production and Use of Bio inputs – Jeevamrut, Vermicompost
- Nectar plants on borders – Moringa and *Sesbania grandiflora*
- Bee Keeping
- Soil testing – Physical and Biological
- Integrated Nutrient Management
- Integrated Pest Management



5. Year-1 Targets and deliverables :



Key Performance Indicator	Target (Absolute number)
Villages covered	3
Households reached	20
Women beneficiaries	4 – Direct 100 – Indirect
Youth beneficiaries	50
Trees planted	1260
Fruit species promoted	2 (4 Varieties)
Trainings planned	10 (3 + 7)
Nurseries established	1

6. Collaboration Opportunities (Offer and Ask)



What we can offer	Support we need
Agroecology based WADI model	Financial Support
Building and Maintaining Ecosystem in and around the farm	Collaboration for technical support on certain aspects
Trainings – Classroom sessions and hands on	Collaboration for research partnership
Demonstration Models	Collaboration for strategic partnership
Technical expertise	Collaboration for mutual interest
Community engagement	Collaboration for knowledge exchange
Working with 18 states for large scale project with small and marginal farmers	
Establishing trials at various BAIF campuses located at different agroclimatic zones of India	
Product and technology testing at field and campuses	

7. Baseline, MEL and Next Steps :

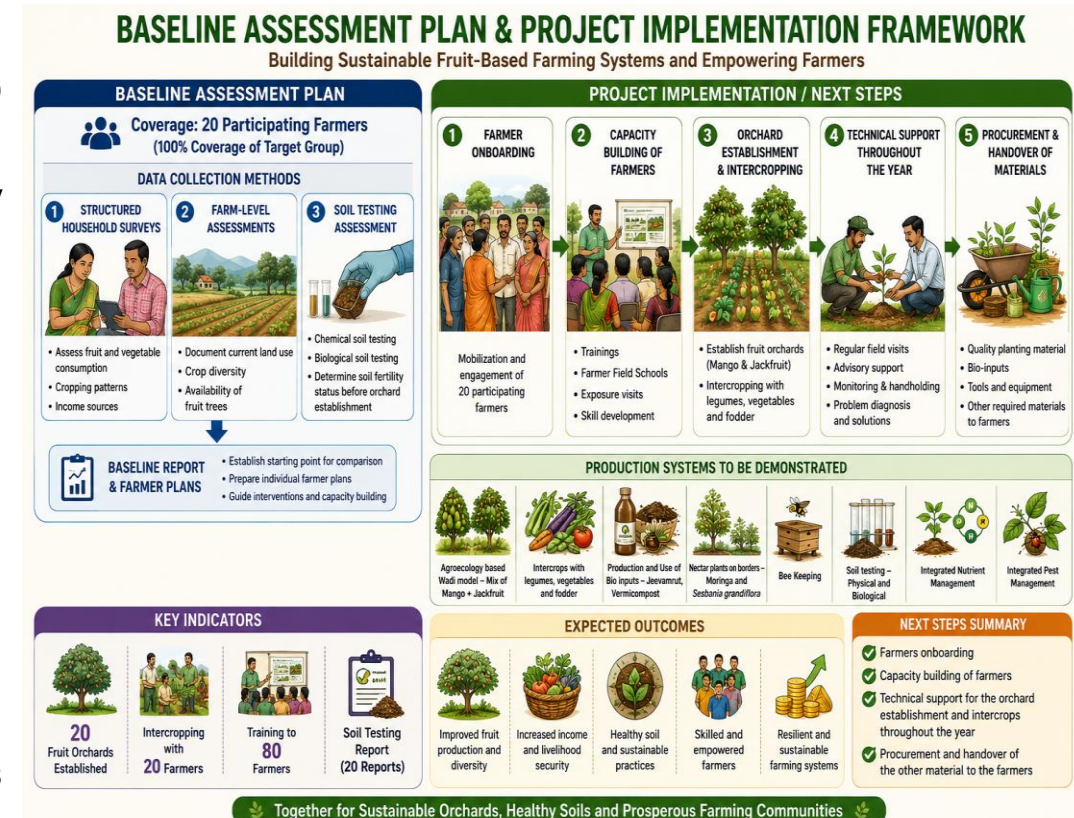
- Baseline Assessment Plan :
 - The baseline survey will include all 20 participating farmers, ensuring complete coverage of the target group.
 - Data collection methods will include:
 - Structured household surveys to assess fruit and vegetable consumption, animal integration, recycling, cropping patterns, and income sources.
 - Farm-level assessments to document current land use, crop diversity, and availability of fruit trees.
 - Chemical and biological soil testing to determine soil fertility status before orchard establishment.

• Key Indicators :

- 20 fruit orchards established
- Intercropping with 20 framers
- Training to 80 farmers – 1st year
- Soil testing report

• Next Steps :

- Famers onboarding
- Capacity building of farmers
- Technical support for the orchard establishment and intercrops through out the year
- Procurement and handover of the other material to the farmers



Together for Sustainable Orchards, Healthy Soils and Prosperous Farming Communities

8. Budget summary, risk & mitigation strategy:



Category	YEAR 1 (₹)	YEAR 2 (₹)	YEAR 3 (₹)	TOTAL (₹)
Personnel	348,000	348,000	348,000	1,044,000
Planting material and field trials	803,600	151,330	157,000	1,111,930
Capacity building and awareness workshops	75,000	75,000	75,000	225,000
Travel (only project related)	50,000	50,000	60,000	160,000
Monitoring, documentation and publication	15,000	15,000	97,000	127,000
Field days	20,000	30,000	20,000	70,000
Administration (10%)	131,160	66,933	75,700	273,793
Total (INR)	1,442,760	736,263	832,700	3,011,723

Potential Risk	Likely Impact	Mitigation Strategy
Erratic rainfall and drought conditions common in semi-arid regions of Madhugiri taluk, Tumkur district, Karnataka	Reduced survival and growth of newly planted mango and jackfruit saplings	Select area specific varieties, ensure proper pit preparation and mulching, promote soil moisture conservation practices, and encourage farmers to adopt efficient irrigation practices where possible
Pest and disease incidence in fruit crops	Damage to saplings and reduced productivity	Provide support for plant protection, train farmers on integrated pest management (IPM) practices, and promote both biological and recommended plant protection measures
Market price fluctuations for farm produce	Reduced income from intercrops or honey production	Promote crop diversification through vegetable intercrops and encourage local consumption of fruits and vegetables to ensure nutrition benefits even if market prices fluctuate



Thanks