



### Vice-chancellors Message

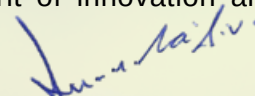


**Dr. S V Suresha**  
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor,  
UASB

The Agri Innovation Centre (AIC) at the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore established in 2017, supported by BioNEST, BIRAC, DBT, GoI and DPIIT, GoI, plays a crucial role in nurturing agricultural startups. It provides a comprehensive range of support and resources to help entrepreneurs transform their ideas into market-ready products. As the Vice Chancellor of the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore and Chairman of the Management Committee at the Agri Innovation Centre, it is my privilege to witness the significant initiatives and progress achieved by this innovative hub. The quarterly newsletter published by the AIC, UAS, Bangalore showcases the dynamic activities of the centre with a wide variety of topics, including the infrastructure support provided to startups, technical mentoring and assistance with funding opportunities. It also covers the capacity-building training sessions and networking events organized by the centre.

Hope this newsletter provides you with plenty of valuable information and encourages you to explore stories of startup resilience, transformative projects and collaborative endeavors that embody the spirit of innovation and progress in agriculture.

Best wishes to all the readers and happy reading!



**(S. V. SURESHA)**

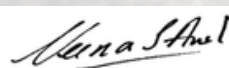
Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter from the AIC, UASB. We are happy to share our progress and initiatives designed to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector. At our Incubation Centre, we are committed to nurturing innovative ideas and supporting entrepreneurs, farmers, students, and researchers. Our goal is to provide the necessary resources, mentorship, and financial backing to help turn visionary concepts into successful agricultural ventures. One of our key achievements is the establishment of the BioNEST Agri Innovation Centre in 2021 with funding support from BIRAC, DBT and also by the DPIIT through the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme, which allows us to offer financial aid to startups at various stages, from ideation to market entry.

As we continue to drive agricultural innovation, we invite all stakeholders to actively participate in our initiatives. Your engagement and support are vital as we work together to transform the agricultural landscape and create a sustainable future.

### Coordinator Message



**Dr. Veena S Anil**  
Professor & Coordinator,  
AIC, UASB



**(VEENA S ANIL)**



# ABOUT AGRI INNOVATION CENTRE

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore (UASB), has established an Agri Innovation Centre (AIC) at the GKV campus in Bangalore in 2017. This center is designed to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector and is a hub of creative ideas and initiatives. It caters to a wide range of individuals, including agriculture graduates, farmers, and anyone with innovative ideas related to agriculture and its allied fields.

The Agri Innovation Centre as an umbrella Centre has an Incubator supported by the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) under the BioNEST scheme since 2021 referred as "BioNEST Agri Innovation Centre". In a significant development, a section 8 company (a nonprofit entity) was established under the Companies Act of 2013 in 2021, as a component of the AIC and operating under the guidance of the esteemed Vice Chancellor of UASB. The Agri Innovation Center UASB, has received funding from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) through the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme, enabling it to provide financial support to startups nationwide. This support spans various stages of their journey, including proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry, and commercialization.

The primary focus of the Agri Innovation Centre at UASB is to empower entrepreneurs, rural youth, farmers, academics, and agricultural scientists with innovative ideas in the Agri and allied sectors. By embracing emerging technologies and initiating translational programs, the centre aims to develop tangible products that enhance the economic returns of the agriculture sector.

Quarterly news of AIC, UASB

## Services offered Agri Innovation Centre



## NOVELTY OF THE CENTER

### Knowledge Centre

Disseminates information on commercializable technologies from UASB, other SAUs, and ICAR Institutes through a comprehensive database accessible to the public via the BioNEST AIC, UASB website.

### Biological Material Repository

Preserves & Stores genetic resources for research and breeding, ensures easy access, maintain diversity, supports commercial use, and fosters collaboration among departments, SAUs and ICAR institutes.

## Impact of AIC,UASB



**60**  
Startups  
supported

**500+**  
Employment  
generated



**900** Lakhs  
Fund raised



**7** IP granted  
to startups



**25** Startups Graduated



**50+** Programs organized





## EVENTS ORGANIZED BY AGRI INNOVATION CENTRE

### PIONEERING OPPORTUNITIES IN INCUBATION AND STARTUP VENTURE



Quarterly news of AIC, UASB

Agri Innovation Center UASB, in association with the Skill Development Center UASB, organized a one-day orientation program entitled "Pioneering Opportunities in Incubation and Startup Ventures" on May 3, 2024, for the final year students of Institute of Agri Business Management, CoA, UASB, as part of the hands-on training programme. Dr. Veena S. Anil, Professor and Coordinator of the Agri Innovation Center, extended a warm welcome to the gathering and highlighted the objectives of the programme. Dr. K. C. Narayanaswamy inaugurated the event, providing a brief overview of startup ideas and their importance. Dr. Siddayya, Professor and Director of PPMC, emphasized the importance of the orientation program. The speakers, Dr. T. N. Venkata Reddy, Dr. G. M. Gaddi, Ms. Nandini C. L., and Dr. Ranganatha, delivered lectures on "Pioneering Opportunities in Incubation and Startup Ventures." Over 60 students participated in the program.

### BIRAC BIG GRANT OUTREACH PROGRAMME

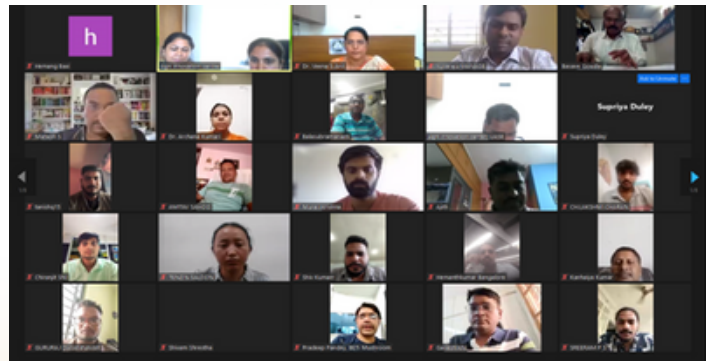
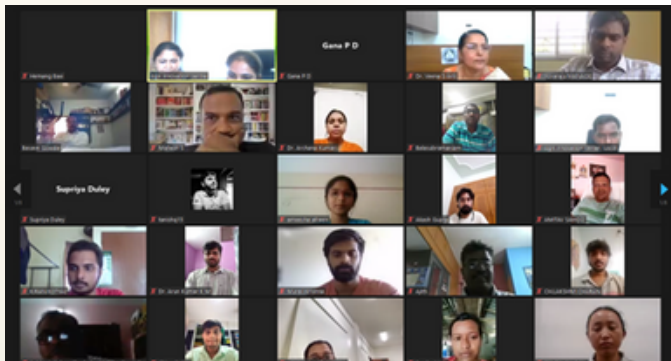


Agri Innovation Centre, in collaboration with BIG partners IIT SINE and C-CAMP (Centre for Cellular & Molecular Platforms), recently organized a comprehensive outreach program for startups, students, and entrepreneurs. The program focused on the Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) and covered essential topics such as grant applications, proposal preparation, budgeting, and project proposal formulation. The event featured both online and offline sessions, attracting approximately 150 participants. Attendees had the opportunity to gain valuable insights and guidance on successfully applying for the BIG grant, enhancing their potential for securing funding and advancing their innovative projects.



# EVENTS ORGANIZED BY AGRI INNOVATION CENTRE

## INNOVATIONS IN AGRI STARTUPS



Quarterly news of AIC, UASB

Agri Innovation Centre at UASB, in collaboration with MANAGE (National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management), Hyderabad, organized a four-day online training program titled “Innovations in Agri Startups: Unlock the Secret to Success in Agri Entrepreneurship” from May 21st to 24th, 2024. This program aimed to provide comprehensive knowledge on starting an agri-business. The inauguration was graced by Dr. Madhuprasad V L, Director of Extension at UASB, Dr. Veena S Anil, Coordinator at AIC, UASB, and Mr. Amit Khale, Manager at MANAGE-CIA. The training saw 480 registrations and was attended by 300 participants across India. The training covered key topics such as Introduction to Agri Startups, Innovation & Technology Integration, Financial Management and Future Strategies, Intellectual Property Rights & Legal Compliance, and Growth Strategies & Industry Insights. The sessions were taken by 16 experts from various domains like Agriculture, Marketing, Finance & Legal. During the valedictory program, insights were shared by Dr. Basavegowda, Registrar at UASB, and Mr. Yuvaraj, Business Manager at MANAGE-CIA.

## PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION



AIC, UASB has signed agreements with NaaVic, the Agribusiness Incubator for Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services of ICAR-NEVEDI and Atal Incubation Centre-Central Coffee Research Institute- Centre for Entrepreneurship, Coffee Board of India on 29th May 2024. The Objectives of the agreements is to foster mutual benefits through: Co-incubation, Joint Programmes, Promotion of Student Innovations, Funding Support for Agri Startups. These collaborations mark a significant step towards enhancing the innovation ecosystem in Agriculture, Coffee, Spices and veterinary sciences, promoting cutting-edge research, and supporting entrepreneurial ventures.



## EVENTS PARTICIPATED BY AIC, UASB

### STARTUP INVESTOR SUMMIT BY BANGALORE BIO INNOVATION CENTER

Bangalore Bio Innovation Centre hosted the Startup Investor Summit from **April 18th to 20th, 2024**. The BioNEST Agri Innovation Centre was actively participated in the event. Over the three days, BioNEST AIC was engaging with startups to showcase their innovative products and seek potential investors for their incubated ventures. The event also provided a platform for interactions with biotechnology-focused startups and other ecosystem partners, fostering opportunities for potential collaborations.



Quarterly news of AIC, UASB

### BIONEST AND EYUVA CONCLAVE



BIRAC, DBT, GOI had organized the BioNEST & EYUVA Conclave on **May 17, 2024**, at the India International Center, New Delhi, to strengthen the ecosystem for entrepreneurs, startups, and innovative technologies. Inaugurated by Dr. Rajesh Gokhale and addressed by Dr. N. Kalaiselvi and Dr. Jitendra Singh, the event featured multiple sessions on peer-to-peer learning and resource sharing among incubation centres, sustainability strategies for bio incubation. The conclave underscored the importance of structured programs, collaboration, resource sharing, and sustainability in fostering a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem, concluding that pre-incubation support is vital for developing innovative, viable startups. Ms. Nandini C L, CEO and Ms. Priyanka S, Operational Manager attended the event.

### INCUBATOR CONCLAVE

The NaaViC Agri-Business Incubation Centre ICAR-NIVEDI organized a **'State Level Incubator Conclave'** on **May 17, 2024**, at Karnataka Science and Technology Academy, Yelahanka, Bengaluru. The event brought together over 33 incubators from Karnataka, along with industry partners from BCIC Karnataka and K-Tech.



The conclave focused on the Triple Helix Model of Innovation, emphasizing collaboration between industry, government, and academia. Discussions covered incubator support systems, including connections between incubators, startups, venture capital, and industry, and aimed at improving resource use and operational methods. Networking opportunities addressed gaps in science, technology, and market trials, with hopes for future industry and government backing. Dr. Veena S Anil and Dr. K. Lakshmeesha, attended the conclave



### **Shivson Crop Sciences Pvt Ltd.**



Shivson Crop Sciences, a startup specializing in capsaicin extraction from leftover chili pulp after seed removal, is making strides in the industry. Funded by UASB, AIC, under the SISFS scheme, the startup has all the necessary equipment for the extraction process. Located in the Doddaballapur Industrial Area, the company boasts comprehensive facilities for both vegetable seed production and capsaicin extraction. With capsaicin being highly sought after in the medicinal field and possessing significant export potential, Shivson Crop Sciences is poised for success. Recently, the AIC team visited the company to assess the progress of the startup.

### **Eco-Con Greens Pvt Ltd.**



Eco Con Greens Pvt Ltd, located in Vasanthanarasapura Industrial Area, Tumkur, transforms sugarcane bagasse into eco-friendly tableware, offering a sustainable alternative to plastic. Supported by UASB, AIC under the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) and self-funding, the company has state-of-the-art equipment and around 35 employees. They supply high-quality products internationally to Singapore, Israel, and the Netherlands. Their diverse range includes plates, bowls, cups, cutlery, and takeaway containers, promoting environmental sustainability. The AIC team recently visited the company to review the startup's progress.





### ENLIGHT AGRO TECH PVT LTD

Startup working on Evaluation of growth enhancing products, Agrolyzer and Agrosmile on different root crops for productivity, mode of action, and bio-safety.

### ECOSIGHT TECHNOLOGIES PVT LTD

The startup is working on precision beekeeping by developing a remote beehive monitoring system that utilizes advanced hardware devices and AI-ML algorithms.



## STARTUP SUCCESS STORIES

### PRUDENTBIO RESEARCH PVT. LTD.



Prudentbio Research Pvt. Ltd. is pioneering an innovative plant-based platform to produce glycosylated antibodies, which integrates seamlessly with existing agronomy practices and significantly reduces production costs compared to mammalian systems. This cost-effective method allows for large-scale production of highly specific antibodies. The company's mission is to establish a sustainable plant-based system for diagnostics and therapeutics, with a current focus on developing point-of-care diagnostics for infectious diseases. Prudent bio's groundbreaking work has been recognized by BIRAC, DBT, and the Elevate Karnataka 2024 grant.

En-Cure Farms LLP, born from a college project, now leads India's agricultural sector with a focus on sustainability and innovation. The startup blends cutting-edge technology with traditional wisdom, offering hands-on farm inspections, soil testing, personalized recommendations, and ongoing support. Promoting Vedic farming practices, En-Cure enhances productivity and eco-friendly methods across southern India. With strategic B2B partnerships, streamlined supply chains, and centralized services, En-Cure delivers cost-effective solutions and advanced techniques like IPM, INM, and IDM. Through marketing, education, community engagement, and data-driven approaches, En-Cure fosters organic farming and efficient resource utilization for sustainable agriculture and a prosperous future for farmers.

### EN-CURE FARMS LLP.





## FACILITIES OFFERED BY BIONEST AGRI INNOVATION CENTRE



**Common Instrumentation Labs (1, 2 & 3)**



**Coworking Space**



**Individual office cabins**



**Tissue Culture Lab**



**Cold Room Facility**



**Food Packaging Facility**



**Green house Facility**



**Mist Chamber**



## FOCUS AREA OF AGRI INNOVATION CENTRE



**Farm Mechanization**



**Biofuel**



**Biofertilizers and  
Biopesticides**



**Seed production**



**Tissue culture**



**Secondary agriculture**



**Biotechnology for crop  
improvement**



**Hydroponics**



**Value addition**



**Digital Agriculture**



**Nanotechnology**



**supply chain management**



## INCUBATEES OF AGRI INNOVATION CENTER ,UASB



Quarterly news of AIC, UASB

## COLLABORATORS



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