The role of organic / bio inputs in non-chemical sustainable agriculture
SEED ... a main component
• Sahaja Samrudha, an organic farmers’ collective began in 2001 as a farmer initiative to exchange ideas, indigenous seeds and knowledge on sustainable agriculture.

• ‘DESI SEED PRODUCER COMPANY LTD’, was established in 2014, to link organic seed producers to the market and promote farmer based seed supply systems while popularizing the traditional seeds.

• No. of seed producers : 110
• Marketing more than 160 varieties of traditional seeds
Sahaja Samrudha is addressing on

- **Seed Mapping** – *Status of Indigenous seeds*
- **Seed Collection** – *Sourcing farmer seeds*
- **Est Diversity Block** – *Demonstration Plot*
- **Varietal Selection** – *By farmers*
- **Seed Production** – *Selected farmers*
- **Community Seed Banks** – *Distribution*
Why Organic Seed?

• Protect diversity for future
• It is not a ‘lab baby’
• Withstands extreme weather
• No much inputs required
• Adjusts local conditions
• Protects seed sovereignty
• Boosts rural economy
Present scenario

Production

- Genuinity issue
- No bulk production
- Lack of promotion
- Pricing policy
- Distribution issue
- Failure in Identify potential varieties
Present scenario

Production
• Genuinity issue
• No bulk production
• Lack of promotion
• Pricing policy
• Distribution issue
• Failure in Identify potential varieties

Growing
• Unavailability
• Knowledge on conservation of seeds
• No support to individual farmer
• Lack of encourage
Reasons behind…

• Disappearance of agro ecology based farming systems
• Domination of ‘pure’ commercial crops
• Declining quality of indigenous seeds
• Discarding traditional knowledge of desi seeds
• Price-wars between hybrid seeds’ companies
The way ahead

- Building confidence
- Provide comprehensive knowledge
- Seed-to-Seed trainings
- Input support
- Exclusive market facility
- Incentive for production
The way ahead

- Awareness on nutritional value
- Health Benefits of traditional seeds over hybrid
- Showcase of amazing diversity
- Delicious recipes by diversified food crops
Needed on priority basis

Research Institutions

• Seed mapping, Characterization
• Varietal conservation efforts
• Nutritional analysis
• Input supports to seed producers
• Follow up- ‘Seed Production Chain’
• Estl of separate market- Indigenous seeds
• Integrated data bank on produce – distribution
• Creating awareness among consumers by fair, mela...
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Governments’ role

• Suitable policies to implement these
Thank You

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