Rukmini's Transformation: A Story of Resilience

A Shift to Sustainable Farming

Rukmini Rameshwar Dalvi, a 44 year old marginal farmer from Ansurda village, Dharashiv, has been farming soybeans on 0.75 Ha of land since the past 20 years. In the recent years her struggles to make ends meet had intensified due to frequent droughts and erratic rainfall patterns.

Three years ago, she started engaging with the Women Led Climate Resilient Farming (WCRF) model of SSP. Subsequently she transitioned to sustainable farming practices which led to reduced input costs and better production.

Innovative Techniques for Drought Resistance

Through periodic on-farm demonstrations in her village, she started adopting sustainable bio practices which helped in efficient water management and healthier crops:
·Vermicomposting, biopesticides, and improved sowing for gram
·Biotreated seeds before transplanting
·Efficient irrigation using rain pipes and sprinklers
·Soil health management, improving organic carbon levels and water retention

Impressive Yields Despite Drought

In the recent drought year in Marathwada, her sustainable mixed farming methods delivered outstanding results of 16.8 quintals of produce from 0.75 hectares of land
·6.8 quintals of gram from 0.40 hectares
·11 quintals of vegetables (coriander, spinach, brinjal and cluster beans) from 0.35 hectares.

Economic Success & Future Aspirations

Rukmini's strategic farming resulted in ₹2.55 lakh earnings in just three months, demonstrating the financial potential of WCRF model. Now, she dreams of educating her children and building their own house. With growing reputation for high quality organic produce, she is securing better market prices.

Scaling Impact Across Dharashiv

Rukmini is just one of the thousands of women farmers who have benefitted through MTDM programme. Till date the programme has positively impacted:
·500 villages covered across 6 blocks of Dharashiv district
·1,00,000 women farmers impacted
·50% of cultivable land converted to the WCRF model