

## Access Agriculture Panorama No. 43 - February 2024



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Access Agriculture leaflet

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### Welcome to our monthly news update with 'Access Agriculture Panorama'

This monthly e-newsletter gives a bird's eye view of all the exciting updates from Access Agriculture, a world-leading organisation for quality agricultural training videos in international and local languages, working across the Global South.

The links to different language versions are given below each section.

If at any time you wish to unsubscribe, please use the unsubscribe link at the bottom of the newsletter.

## NEWS



### World Bicycle Relief and Access Agriculture team up to support young changemakers in Uganda

Five teams of Entrepreneurs for Rural Access (ERA) in Uganda are all set to hit the road on their new Buffalo Bicycles carrying their smart projectors to promote videos on agroecology and organic farming in remote villages, thanks to an innovative partnership agreement between the World Bicycle Relief and Access Agriculture.

“The main aim of the partnership is to empower selected ERA teams to overcome challenges of transportation so that they can do their work efficiently as e-extension service providers,” explained Ezra Masolaki, Access Agriculture Entrepreneur coach for East Africa. “Most of our ERAs have mentioned that having a bicycle can help them a lot, especially in reducing their transportation cost which is very high.” [Read more](#) ....

## EcoAgtube



### Videos on successful work of ICARDA, ARC and Access Agriculture in Egypt on EcoAgtube

Access Agriculture worked with the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Egyptian Agricultural Research Center (ARC) as a key partner in a project titled “Innovative Agriculture for Smallholder Resilience (iNASHR) in Egypt.

The achievements of 'Entrepreneurs for Rural Access (ERAs)' in reaching more than 60,000 people in remote rural areas of Egypt as part of this project were highly appreciated by all the stakeholders.

Please check out three related videos – [Video learning for rural women & youth in Egypt](#); [Youth-led knowledge exchange in rural Egypt](#); and [Closing iNASHR Workshop with Josephine Rodgers, Executive Director of Access Agriculture](#) – which are now on [EcoAgtube](#) to learn more about the exciting achievements of this project. The videos are in Arabic with subtitles in English.

## DONATE



### Your support needed to empower the changemakers

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our donors, as two of the six young women entrepreneurs whom our campaign targets, have successfully embarked on their journey to bring knowledge to other women of their farming communities.

Please be one of the wonderful people to [make a donation](#) at GlobalGiving and share this opportunity with your friends.

[Help us raise funds for our current campaign!](#)

## New videos added in January

**66 new videos** - [14 Assamese](#); [4 English](#); [4 French](#); [21 Hiligaynon](#); [10 Kriol](#) / [Creole \(Guinea-Bissau\)](#) ; and [13 Tagalog](#) - have been posted on our platform [www.accessagriculture.org](http://www.accessagriculture.org). They are freely downloadable as video (mp4), audio (mp3), mobile (video format 3gp) along with a one-page fact sheet with contact details for more information.



## Editor's choice



### How to sell ecological food

When selling in fairs, you can create an identity as a group, for example, by using the same signs, aprons and table cloths. Organize recreational, educational activities with consumers, and their kids. Make alliances with local authorities to create places to sell ecological food, differentiated from those produced with agrochemicals.

[Aymara](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Quechua](#) | [Spanish](#)

## FROM OUR CHANGEMAKERS



### [ERAs@work!](#)

#### Entrepreneurs for Rural Access (ERAs) at work in India

The following ERAs are part of the Access Agriculture project in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states in India, supported by the Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation (KGJF):

- ERA team members, **Pothula Buggappa and Budda Anuradha**, who are associated with the Watershed Support Services and Activities Network (**WASSAN-Telangana**), organised seven video shows in the last three months (December 2023 to February 2024), for 190 participants, including 28 female participants, in Polkampally, Erlapally, Gokafasalwad and Doualathabad villages, Vikarabad district, Telangana state. The videos featured were the following: [Staking tomato plants](#), [Managing tomato leaf curl virus](#), [Managing](#)

[the rice leaf folder](#), [The onion nursery](#), [Root and stem rot in groundnut](#), and [Crop rotation with legumes](#), among others. The ERAs also conducted practical sessions after the video screening. ([See photos in Access Agriculture Flickr](#))

In December 2023, ERA coach **Mounica Lingireddy**, visited the WASSAN-Telangana ERA team and interacted with farmers from various villages, encouraging them to adopt natural farming practices shown in the farmer-training videos. She also met some of the successful farmers who have benefitted from watching the videos shown by the ERA team using the smart projector. She introduced Access Agriculture and its ERA model to local government officials and agricultural scientists and extension officers. During her visit, the ERA team facilitated a video show on [Managing aflatoxins in groundnuts during drying and storage](#), which was followed by a group discussion. ([See photos in Access Agriculture Flickr](#))

- ERA team members, **Indira Karri, Santhi Kumari Tuburu and Dasari Dali Naidu**, associated with **Susag** Millet Farmer Producer Company, facilitated two training programmes over the last three months (December 2023 to February 2024) for 65 participants, including 24 female participants, in Kullubha and Thurakalavalasa villages, Alluri Seetharamaraju district, Andhra Pradesh state. As the district is known for its extensive coffee plantations and based on farmers' demand, the ERAs screened the following videos during the training programmes: [Coffee: stumping & pruning](#) and [Coffee: picking & drying](#). In addition, they showed the video [Taking care of local chickens](#). ([See photos in AccessAgricultureFlickr](#))

Susag received the INDIA Good Agriculture Practices (IndGAP) certificate from the Andhra Pradesh Agriculture Minister in December 2023. The IndGAP certification scheme has been developed to ensure that farmers follow good agricultural practices, manage food safety, and minimise environmental harm. ([See photos in Access Agriculture Flickr](#))

- The ERA team members, who are associated with **Sabala** NGO are **Janaki Bobbili** and **Eswar Rao**, are fully involved in training rural women in millet processing and preparation of millet food products in Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh. Sabala has established the 'Arogya Millets' unit, which sells all its millet products. In December 2023, Sabala and its outlet welcomed participants of a training programme focusing on 'Prospective CEOs of Farmer Producer Organisations.' In February 2024, Agricultural students from Naira College in Andhra Pradesh visited Sabala to observe natural farming practices. ([SeephotosinAccessAgricultureFlickr](#))

In February 2024, Ms. **K Saraswathi**, Executive Secretary of Sabala and CEO of Arogya Millet FPO, was invited as a keynote speaker at the National Workshop on 'Millet marvels: cultivating knowledge for farmers, entrepreneurs and consumers'. ([See photos in Access Agriculture Flickr](#))

- ERA team members, **Vanthala Matsyaraju, Pangi Lakshmi and Salla Venkata Lakshmi**, associated with **Adivasi Mitra** Welfare Society, conducted eight training sessions with videos in the last three months (December 2023 to February 2024) for 209 participants, including 80 female participants, in Gabbangi village, Alluri Seetharamaraju district, Andhra Pradesh state. The following videos were screened in the training sessions: [Coffee: group](#)

[organisation](#), [Drip irrigation for tomato](#), [Grow row by row](#), [Growing azolla for feed](#), [Growing oyster mushrooms](#) and [Making chilli powder](#), among others. ([See photos in Access Agriculture Flickr](#))

- ERA team members, **Anuradha Devi Reddy and Sandeep Chiyvedu**, associated with **WASSAN-Andhra Pradesh**, warmly received ERA coach, **Mounica Lingireddy**, during her visit in December 2023. Together, they interacted with several farmers in various villages, who have benefitted by adopting improved farming practices after watching videos, such as [Organic biofertilizer in liquid and solid form](#) and [Stocking fingerlings in a nursery pond](#), screened by the ERA team using the smart projector. Mounica introduced the Access Agriculture and the ERA team's work in her meetings with agricultural scientists and local agricultural officials during her visit, and attended live video sessions facilitated by the ERA team. ([See photos in Access Agriculture Flickr](#))

In February 2024, the ERA team facilitated one video show for 18 participants, including 12 female participants, in Nallacheruvu village, Sri Sathya Sai district, Andhra Pradesh state. The videos shown included [Floating vegetable gardens](#) and [Nipping of pigeon pea](#). ([See photos in Access Agriculture Flickr](#))

- ERA team members, **Abhishekam and Jasmine**, associated with the Centre for Sustainable Agriculture (**CSA**) closely interacted with the ERA coach, **Mounica Lingireddy**, during her visit in December 2023, to see the ERA activities. Mounica visited the CSA ERA's Bio-input Resource Centre (BRC) and saw its products, including biofertilisers and biopesticides that were being sold. The ERA was thrilled to share the news that he had succeeded in getting a bank loan of Rs 25 lakh (over €27,000) to improve his production.

Mounica interacted also with several farmers from various villages, who had benefitted from watching Access Agriculture videos shown by the ERA team, such as [Root and stem rot in groundnut](#), [Taking care of okra](#), and [Managing aflatoxins in groundnuts during drying and storage](#). One of the highlights of this visit was her meeting with the chairperson and members of a women farmers' cooperative, who have established a small seed bank of local vegetable seeds and are selling seeds. She also introduced Access Agriculture and ERA activities to the Krishi Vignan Kendra (Farmers' Knowledge Centre) officials, and attended a video session facilitated by the ERA team. Before concluding her visit, she discussed with the ERA team on improving data collection. ([See photos in Access Agriculture Flickr](#))

- ERA team members, **Midathana Hemalatha, Ramanamma and Nagireddy Satya Prasad**, associated with **Vikasa** NGO conducted two videos shows in December 2023 for 37 participants, including 17 female participants, in Kusumaguda and Jodiguda villages, Alluri Seetharamaraju district, Andhra Pradesh state. They screened the following videos: [Animals & trees for a better crop](#), [Taking care of okra](#), [Succeed with seeds](#) and [Effective weed management in rice](#). ([See photos in Access Agriculture Flickr](#))

## BLOG POSTS



### [From family farm to family firm](#)

In Peru, one way to save endangered, native potatoes is by selling and eating them. I recently learned that some restaurant owners are buying native potatoes directly from farmers.

Paul and Marcella and I went with local agronomist Raúl Ccanto to meet Guido Villegas, the Huancayo city official in charge of promoting food security and local commerce. He told us that the government of Peru has a program to feed children (Qali Wamru: “vigorous child”) where the national government sends foodstuffs that can be easily stored and transported.

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## MEET OUR AMBASSADOR



### **Musa Bitrus Ndahi**

Musa Bitrus Ndahi is a development professional with 8 years of working experience in community development and agricultural extension. He volunteered with VSO Nigeria from 2013-2020 and with Oxfam as a Field Enumerator. Currently he is working with YMCA Mada Hills/EJW Germany as a Field Officer in the Community-Based Agricultural Services Department. Musa holds a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Economics & Extension and is now a Masters Candidate at Nasarawa State University Keffi, Nigeria assessing the beneficiaries' perception and level of participation in YMCA-Oxfam Village Savings and Loan Associations in Nasarawa State Nigeria.

He is also a participant in the “Digital Ethics in Times of Crisis: COVID-19 and Access to Education and Learning Spaces” Research Sprint, hosted by the Berkman Klein Center at Harvard University.

Musa intends to make use of the Access Agriculture and EcoAgtube platforms to share experiences from a Nigerian perspective of agricultural practices.