



Scoping policy actions for adoption of agro-ecological movement as sustainability and climate resilient community

The Wicked Challenge

Small-scale farmers face sustainability threats from land degradation, poor soil, water scarcity, and climate change, with their remote, dispersed nature making large-scale support difficult

BUT

The agroecology approach blends science with Indigenous practices to create sustainable, locally adaptive farming. It revives tribal knowledge and fosters collaboration to build a climate-resilient, equitable, and community-led agricultural model.

Common agreement

- Policy Gaps & Misalignment**
Absence of convergence between ministries
Fertilizer/water subsidies dominate over agroecological funding
- Indigenous and natural farming practices need to be mainstreamed and supported**
- Need for community-driven biomass banks, policy literacy, and fund control at grassroots**
- Mass mobilisation is needed to shift narratives on Government policies**



Speaker
Abhishek Jain
Director, CEEW

"What is the current ideology or 'vichardhaara' of policy makers in India?"

- Gaps in current policy ideology
- Policies generally gain their direction through budgetary decisions - budgetary allocation for Agro ecology adoption needs to alleviated
- Mass-level demand change to counterbalance elite policy lobbies



Speaker
Pramel Gupta
National Anchor, NCNF

- CSOs in policy formulation and adoption of natural farming should be in focus
- CSOs should lead in policy formulation and adoption of natural farming through evidence-based, field-driven inputs
- The national coalition on natural farming (NCNF) provides evidence and examples on how CSOs can collaborate and provide/feed their insights into the policy formulation process
- NCNF and IIT Delhi research on motivation & cluster viability



Speaker
Kapil Shah
Founder Director, Jatan Trust

- "Feed the soil so that the soil can feed us"*
- Soil health and biomass is paramount
- Increasing organic carbon in soil (goal: 0.7-1%)
- Proposed 10% of farmland should be used to feed the soil
- Advocated for livestock integration and biomass banks at community level



Moderator
Subrat Das
Program Officer, Ford Foundation

CSOs need more formal space and recognition in policy circles

Potential Solution



Policy Realignment:
From Sarkar to Swaraaj



Amplify CSO Voice



Empower Communities