

## From the Desk of

**Senior Prog. Director,  
ACCESS Development Services**

We are delighted to present the inaugural edition of our newsletter, bringing you insightful updates and highlights from the **GAP (Grant for Agroecology Programme) Fund** initiative in India. The newsletter aims to provide an overview of our journey, accomplishments, challenges, and the transformative impact we are making in the realm of agroecology value chain projects in India.

## Introducing the GAP Fund

Discovering the roots of the GAP Fund, its mission, and the overarching goal of fostering sustainable agricultural practices in India. ACCESS Development Services is managing an investment fund, namely the GAP Fund on behalf of the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) that aims to promote and strengthen agroecology-based value chains. GAP fund provides investment

support for integrated agroecology-based sustainable production systems by supporting Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) and Producer Organization Enterprises (POEs) through grants, technical assistance, and ecosystem support. The objective is to improve their businesses, enhance their agroecological outcomes, and provide tangible benefits to small producers in the value chain.

## GAP Fund has 2 categories

### GAP Fund - Challenge

With business grants above INR 10 million to INR 20 million to set up high-impact projects in the Agroecology Value Chain through a Fund Challenge, to be announced quarterly PAN India basis.



### GAP Fund - Regular

With business grants ranging from INR 2 million to INR 10 million - Proposal for 10 focus states remain open throughout the year. Focus States are Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram, Assam, Uttarakhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.



## Ten Elements of Agroecological Elements



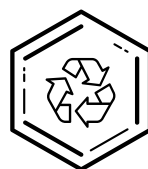
Diversity



Synergies



Efficiency



Recycling



Culture and  
Food Traditions



Human and  
Social Values



Resilience



Co-creation  
and Sharing of  
Knowledge



Responsible  
Governance

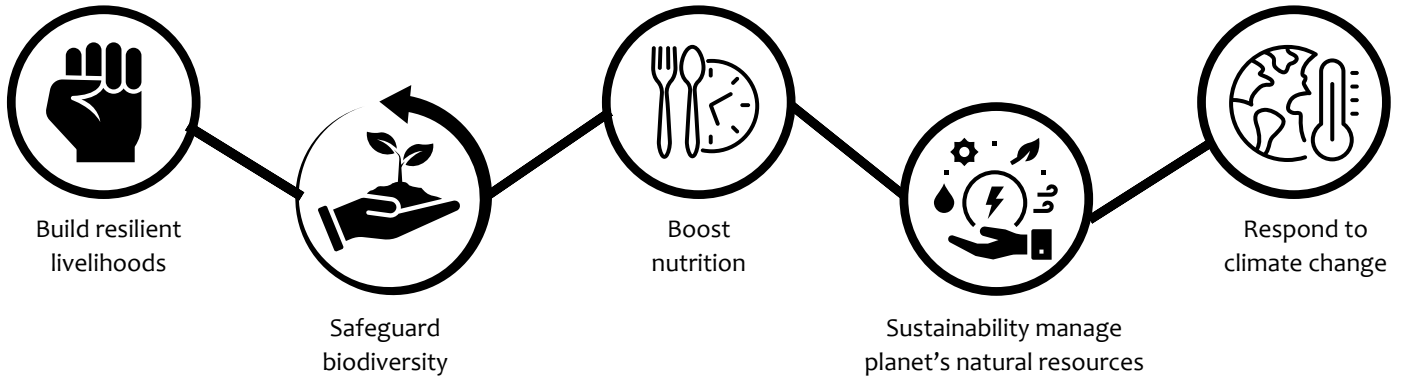


Circular and  
Solidarity  
Economy

### Did you Know?

Agroecology is a holistic and sustainable approach to agriculture that integrates ecological principles into farming practices. It emphasizes sustainable practices, biodiversity, and natural processes to enhance soil fertility, and crop production. It seeks to promote environmentally friendly and socially equitable food production methods for a sustainable future by harmonizing human activities with natural ecosystems.

## Benefits of Agroecology



## Project Updates

### Awards to the first Cohort of GAP Fund Grantee in the Livelihood India Summit

The first Cohort of seven GAP Fund Grantees was awarded Grant Certificates by our distinguished guests in the **prestigious Livelihood India Summit held in New Delhi on 17th - 18th Jan 2024**. The award was jointly given by Her Royal Highness the Infanta Doña Cristina of Spain - Director of the International Area at "la Caixa" Foundation and Faiz Ahmed Kidwai - Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, Vipin Sharma, Chief Executive Officer, ACCESS and Vivek Sinha, Senior Programme Director, GAP Fund team in the Valedictory Session.





## Selection Process and Status of Selected Grantees



GAP Fund Implementation  
Manual



**01** Concept Notes Received & Evaluated

Total 180 Concept Notes Evaluated  
63 shortlisted



**02** Detailed Proposal Received & Evaluated

33 proposals received



**03** Final Selection

INR 62.92 million  
(INR 38.44 million to FPOs and  
INR 24.49 million to MSEs)

The first Investment Committee Meeting for both regular and challenger categories of the GAP Fund was conducted. The committee gave the final nod to seven applicants (four in FPO and three in MSE categories) in phase I.

The sanctioned amount is INR 62.92 million (INR 38.44 million in the FPO category and INR 24.49 million in the MSE category).

The details are given below:



Name of Grantee	Theme	Channel
Negi Paheri Women FPC, Balliguda, Odisha	GI - Tagged Turmeric production and value addition	GAP - Regular
Agrinet Food & Beverage Pvt. Ltd, Chamoli, Uttarakhand	Project Fragrant - Lemongrass production on wasteland, processing with market linkage	GAP - Regular
Samrudhhi Agri Producer Company Limited, Rajasthan	Bio-input Manufacturing (PROM) Facility for enhancing productivity & strengthening Agroecology	GAP - Regular
PENDRANI Farmer Producer Company, Nabarangpur, Odisha	Building Economic Resilience of Maize Farmers through Integration with Dairy; Income diversification Through Climate Resilient Practices in Nabarangpur	GAP - Regular
Agspert Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Assam	End-to-end supply chain traceability system designed to solve bottlenecks in the Indian farm-to-plate supply chains	GAP - Regular
All Garo Hills-Multipurpose Cooperative Society, Meghalaya	Cashew plantation revival and cashew processing & market linkage	GAP - Challenge
Bio-Therm Flavours and Fragrances LLP, Tamil Nadu	Development of centralized facilities and model farming systems for vetiver, a high-value cash crop	GAP - Challenge

We invite readers to join hands in our mission to transform the agroecology landscape in India. Whether you are a farmer, facilitator, entrepreneur, investor, policymaker, or enthusiast, there are various ways to contribute to the sustainable growth of our agriculture sector.

Thank you for being a part of the GAP journey. Together, we are sowing the seeds of a greener, more prosperous future for Indian agriculture.