

PART- 5: Empowerment of farmwomen through backyard poultry

Role and responsibility of Youth Core Group (YCG)

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- ◆ Very few study has been done on the methodology of using extension approaches/methods for farm women which needs refinements to make them women friendly for providing them sustainable extension services.
- ◆ ICAR-CIWA studies on women's extension needs and preferences are different than that of men. The extension change agents usually contact the male persons only, bypass the women due to lack of gender sensitization, resulting the women folk deprived of extension services.
- ◆ In the light of the above observation, the ICAR-CIWA being of developed a Multi-Agency Participatory Extension(MAPE) Model, Youth Core Group (YCG: 1female +1 male) members were selected from same village and trained on various aspects of poultry keeping.
- ◆ The Youth Core Group worked as a change agent and were responsible for providing extension services, to both female and male persons at village level, receive the service charges from the farm families for the services provided.
- ◆ The criteria for selecting the YCGs: - 1. Less than 35 years of education 2. Education: minimum primary pass 3. Interest for learning and good communication skill
- ◆ Maintaining coordination among the multi- agencies. Developing plan and programme for the villages in collaboration with multi-agencies and extension workers to enhance their socio-economic well-being including WSHG in the empowerment process
- ◆ Participating in the training programmes at ICAR-CIWA/ local institution
- ◆ Assisting the scientists of ICAR-CIWA in participatory agricultural research and extension programme
- ◆ Bringing the problems of the farmers to the notice of scientists and implementing solutions of the problems from scientists to farmers in a two way process
- ◆ Recording weekly poultry activities
- ◆ Distributing critical inputs for the programme among the beneficiaries and supervising the utilization
- ◆ Establishing healthy working relationship among themselves and with other villagers
- ◆ Assisting the farming community especially in marketing of poultry produces and getting institutional credit
- ◆ Sustaining the agriculture development of the village by mainstreaming gender in agriculture

Role and responsibility of Youth Core Group:-

- ◆ Taking care of the day old chicks in mother units up to 30 days, maintaining temperature, feeding and drinking practices management of the birds, vaccination/ de worming at different stages of birds growth
- ◆ Collecting data on poultry
- ◆ Providing information and technology on backyard poultry to the farmers and farm women in their locality
- ◆ Conducting demonstrations for increasing the skills in poultry rearing for egg and meat production

