

SRISTI SAMMAN-2018

Sanjay Maruti Patil

Maharashtra

Sanjay Patil is working on Indigenous crop diversity and wild food resources since 2007-08 with tribal and rural communities in Maharashtra under BAIF programmes and through this programme he has conserved and revived more than 650 landraces of different crops like Paddy, Millets, Maize, Sorghum, beans, Oil seeds, Vegetables with community participation in Five Tribal Blocks of Maharashtra, Jawhar (Palghar), Akole (Ahmednagar), Junner (Pune), Dhadgaon (Nandurbar), Etapalli (Gadchiroli). Under this programme, he has established five community seed banks for community level seed production and up scaling of crop diversity and also promoted selected landraces of different crops which are climate resilient, stress tolerant, nutritionally rich and having specific end uses also initiated nutritional and molecular level studies, native vegetable crop diversity promoted

through nutrition garden in 5603 families. Promotion of sustainable agriculture practices for soil health, Pest and disease management and improved cultivation practices like SRI, Line sowing, Ridge and furrow method etc is also part of this work. He has organized trainings for government officers, NGO's, farmers and wild food exhibitions, seed exhibitions for community awareness. Through these initiatives 2 farmers developed their own selection varieties of paddy who were also recognized by national plant genome awards.

Documentation and collection of pulses diversity and residual moisture crops covering 82 landraces of cow pea, hyacinth bean, peas, red gram, black gram, pigeon pea has been done and also applied for registration of 43 landraces under PPV & FRA (33 Paddy, 5 Maize, 5 Sorghum,) on the name of seed saver

farmer groups in tribal blocks. More than 200 wild food resources were documented and selected species of tubers for food and nutritional security were promoted in 3 Tribal blocks of Maharashtra. Through these programmes, cadre of village level youths for promotion for agro biodiversity and related aspects and established Nutrition garden seed production group as small scale enterprise. He provides all the technical support to NGO's,

Agriculture departments and individual farmers for establishing seed diversity blocks, seed production systems in Maharashtra and other states too. He has also initiated a programme on role of youth in sustainable development and interacted with more than 7000 students from colleges, research Institutes, Universities in Maharashtra This work had been presented in National and international conferences and published various research journals.