

## NATIONAL MISSION FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE (NMSA)

NMSA is one of the eight Missions outlined under National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The strategies and programme of action (POA) outlined in the Mission Document, that was accorded 'in principle' approval by Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change (PMCCC) on 23.09.2010, aim at promoting sustainable agriculture through seventeen deliverables focusing on ten key dimensions of Indian agriculture. During XII Five Year Plan, these measures are being embedded and mainstreamed onto ongoing/proposed Missions/ Programmes/ Schemes of Dept. of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) through a process of restructuring and convergence.

NMSA as a restructured Mission for XII plan shall cater to 5 Mission Deliverables. Remaining Mission Deliverables are being addressed through other Missions/ Schemes including those by DARE and DAHD&F. NMSA has been conceptualized by subsuming Rainfed Area Development programme (RADP), National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI), National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility (NPMSH&F) and Soil and Land Use Survey of India under its domain. NMSA will accord special focus for development of rainfed areas, resource conservation, water use efficiency and soil health management. NMSA will also replicate the learning of the National Initiatives of Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) being implemented by ICAR in select blocks on pilot basis.

The meeting of Expenditure Finance Committee to consider the XII Plan proposal on National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) was held on 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2013 at 11.30 a.m. in the Fresco Hall, North Block, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Shri R. S. Gujral, Secretary (Expenditure), Ministry of Finance. The proposal is being processed for consideration of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

### PROGRAMME COMPONENTS:

- (i) **Rainfed Area Development ( RAD - Rs. 3100 Cr):** This component has been formulated in a 'watershed plus framework', i.e., to explore potential utilization of natural resources base/assets available/created through watershed development and soil conservation activities /interventions under MGNREGS, RKVY, IWMP etc. It will rely on Integrated Farming System (IFS) for enhancing productivity and minimizing risks associated with climatic variabilities.
- (ii) **On Farm Water Management (OFWM - Rs.8450 Cr):** OFWM will focus primarily on enhancing water use efficiency by promoting efficient on-farm water management technologies and equipment.
- (iii) **Soil Health Management (SHM - Rs. 700 Cr):** SHM will aim at promoting location as well as crop specific sustainable soil health management including residue management, organic farming practices by way of creating and linking soil fertility maps with macro-

micro nutrient management, appropriate land use based on land type, judicious application of fertilizers and minimizing soil erosion.

- (iv) **Climate Change and Sustainable Agriculture: Monitoring, Modelling & Networking (CCSAMMN - Rs. 314 Cr):** CCSAMMN will provide creation and dissemination of climate change related information and knowledge by way of piloting climate change adaptation/mitigation research/model projects in the domain of climate smart sustainable management practices and integrated farming systems suitable to local agro-climatic conditions.

#### **PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION:**

NMSA will have a three tier structure for planning, implementation and monitoring of various components. At national level, National Advisory Committee (NAC) under Chairmanship of Secretary (A&C) will provide overall guidance for planning. Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) chaired by Mission Director, NMSA will prioritize and approve projects under NMSA. Standing Technical Committee (STC) will provide knowledge support and technical feed back to the PSC and NAC to decide the policy content or change in any component if required. CRIDA, CAZRI, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region and selected SAUs will be represented in the STC.

At State level, State Level Committee (SLC) will oversee planning and implementation of the Mission. States may set up an autonomous State Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (SMSA) for implementation of NMSA. At district level, District Mission Committee (DMC) will be entrusted with project formulation, implementation and monitoring of NMSA.

NMSA envisages concerted mechanism for monitoring and evaluation with involvement of scientific institutions and implementing agencies including line departments. Information and communication technology will be deployed extensively for ensuring transparency in the implementation process and effective monitoring of the Mission.

#### **OUTCOME:**

NMSA is expected to transform Indian agriculture into a climate resilient production system through suitable adaptation and mitigation measures in the domains of both crop husbandry and animal husbandry. These measures will help in absorption of improved technology and best practices and promote suitable coping mechanisms for climatic and non-climatic stresses. While primary focus of NMSA will be on conservation and sustainable use of natural resources for food and livelihood security, it will also expand its coverage primarily to rainfed areas by integrating farming systems with livestock and fisheries, so that agricultural production continues to grow in a sustainable manner.