



Cleaner Air, Better Life: The Crop Residue Management Initiative

Crop residue burning in the north-western states of India (especially Punjab and Haryana) has become a serious issue for public health, environment, and soil productivity. The Crop Residue Management Initiative, which was started in 2019, today brings multiple and long-term benefits to residents of 34 villages in four districts of Haryana. The programme focuses on behaviour change among farmers while deeply embedding sustainable farming practices amongst the agrarian community.

During FY 2022-23, the project continued to support more than 11,000 farmers. Key interventions included behaviour change among farmers, machinery support, technical trainings and handholding, mass awareness campaigns, and participatory monitoring. So far, more than 100 farming technological tools have been provided to local farmer groups based on a shared economy model. More than 52,000 acres of farmland was covered under the initiative.

The CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD) provides independent research and knowledge support for the project to develop wider understanding of the issue and communicating the same to all stakeholders. Based on the impact assessment survey carried out by CESD in April 2022 and May 2022, it has been seen that farmers in 97% of the intervened area have adopted sustainable crop residue management practices.



Sustainable Management of Crop Residue using Indigenous Farm Technology

Testimonial



The Crop Residue Management (CRM) project initiated by CII Foundation and Apraava Energy has been a boon for many farmers like me, providing us with access to agricultural machinery at an affordable cost. The timely availability of machinery has helped us manage paddy straw by cultivating it into the soil. This has not only saved us money but also time, allowing us to sow wheat in a single cultivation with the use of a Super Seeder.

This initiative has been particularly beneficial for small farmers like me who do not possess tractors and other agricultural implements. I express my gratitude towards CII Foundation and Apraava Energy for their contribution to the project, which has facilitated our farming practices and enhanced agricultural productivity.



Manpreet Singh,
Sultanpuria, Rania, Sirsa
Total Farmland: 4 acres

