

IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2024

EDITION VOLUME IAI/24/10



MEETING WITH SHRI DHANANJAY MUNDEJI HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, GOVT. OF MAHARASHTRA

Irrigation Association of India, Maharashtra Chapter, convened a crucial meeting at Mantralaya Mumbai with the esteemed presence of Hon. Agriculture Minister Shri Dhananjay Mundeji, along with several other dignitaries from the government including Director of Horticulture, Director of RKVY, Director-POCRA, Deputy Secretary, MAHADBT Team, and other key officials.



Mr. K.M. Mahamulkar - Vice President West, IAI, Mr. Z.H. Bhandari, Chairman, IAI Maharashtra Chapter, Mr. Kamlesh Das, Mr. Sandeep Jawalekar, Secretary - IAI MH, and other senior industry members were also actively engaged in the discussions.

Key issues discussed during Meeting

- Discussion primarily focused on securing funding from both the GOI & state
- Concerns regarding the functionality of the MAHADBT Portal
- Initiation of Annual Action Plan (AAP), SLSC, and fund reservation for FY 2024-25

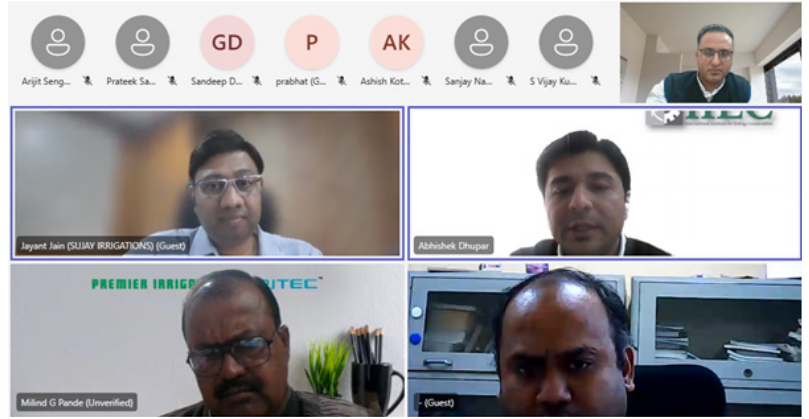
Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, assured the availability of funds for pending proposals and highlighted plans to seek additional funds from the GOI. Addressing portal concerns, he plans to appoint specialized technical personnel. Moreover, pre-sanctions on April 1st will aid Cotton & Other crop farmers, assured by the State Government.

CONSULTATION MEETING WITH IIEC ON CONVERGENCE OF MICRO – IRRIGATION AND SOLAR PUMPS

The Irrigation Association of India participated a dynamic Consultation Meeting hosted by ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (ICAR-NIAP) and the International



Institute for Energy Conservation (IIEC) on January 11, 2024. The meeting was led by Mr. Jayant Jain, Technical Committee Chairman, IAI & Managing Director of Sujay Irrigation, and esteemed members of the IAI Technical Committee, the gathering aimed to explore the intricacies of implementing government initiatives, specifically PM-KUSUM & PM-KSY. The focus was on uncovering opportunities and overcoming challenges encountered by the Micro-Irrigation (MI) and solar pump industry. The discussion delved into the industry's perspective on Micro-Irrigation as a pivotal tool for enhancing water use efficiency during solar pump applications in agriculture. The recommendations generated by industry leaders will play a crucial role in shaping the future integration of micro-irrigation techniques with solar pumping. This includes the convergence of Government schemes such as Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) with PM-KUSUM and PM-KSY, particularly in the states of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The outcomes will pave the way for innovative solutions and advancements in sustainable agricultural practices.



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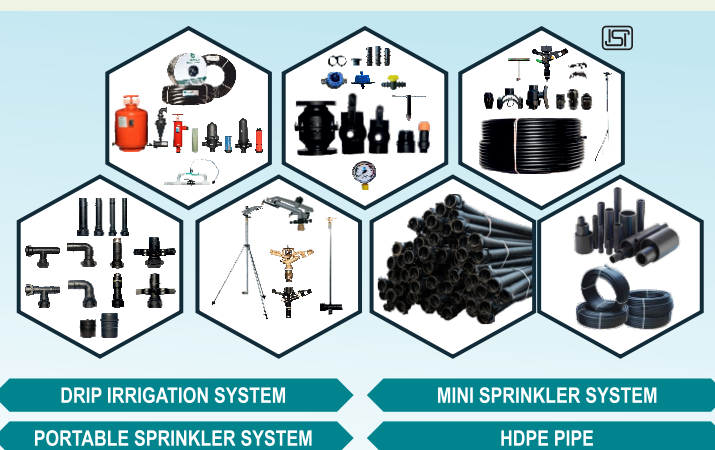


MEMBERS OF THE IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA RECEIVE ACCOLADES AT THE ESTEEMED BIS AWARDS

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the National Standards Body of India operating under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India, celebrated its 77th Foundation Day on January 5, 2024, at Hotel Savera in Chennai. Premier Irrigation Adritec and Sujay Irrigation, esteemed patron members of the Irrigation Association of India, were honoured during the 77th BIS Foundation Day for their ongoing commitment to maintaining the quality of their products. These awards were conferred based on assessments conducted by BIS over a two-year period, acknowledging the consistent high-quality manufacturing efforts of various manufacturers. The recognized consistency in product quality from the awardees serves as an inspiration for the entire industry.



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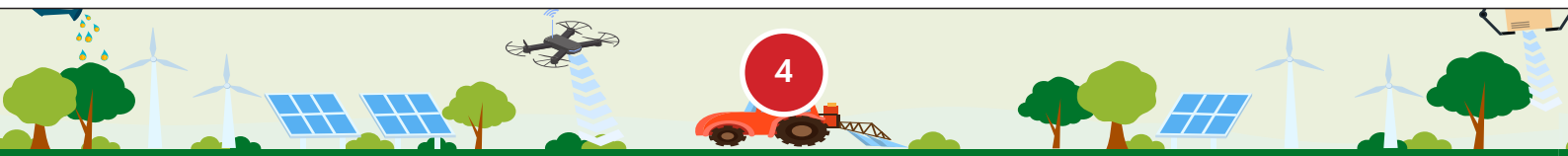
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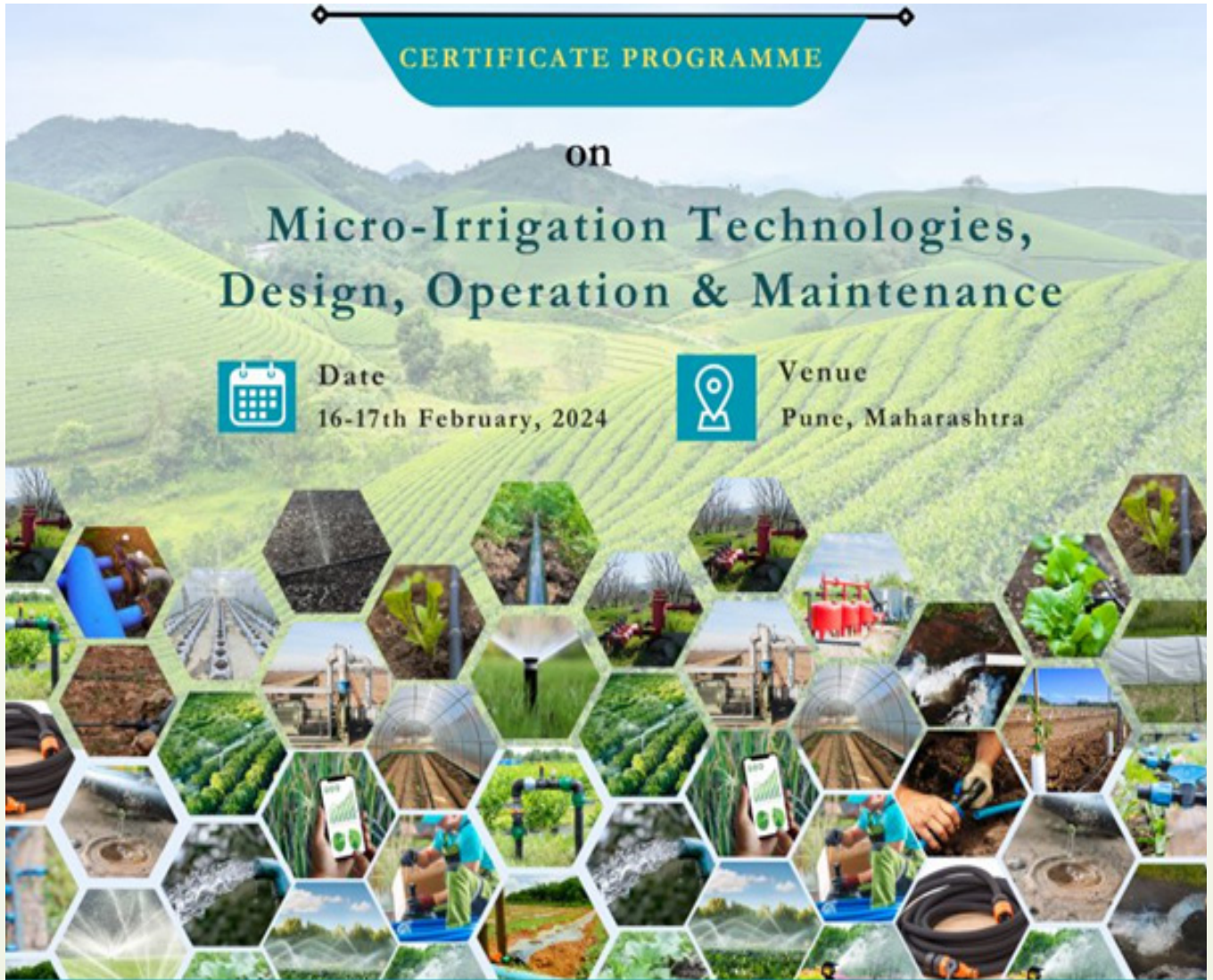
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IAI ANNOUNCES A CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME ON MICRO IRRIGATION TECHNOLOGIES, DESIGN, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE

Irrigation Association of India is organizing a 2-Days Training program on “Micro Irrigation Technologies, their Design, Operation & Maintenance” from 16-17 February, 2024 at Pune, Maharashtra. The



capacity-building initiative aims to create a pool of knowledgeable and qualified irrigation professionals well-versed in implementing irrigation technologies. The participants will be exposed to fundamental concepts related to Crop Water and Nutrient demand and its management the latest innovative technologies, practices, and advances in the Irrigation Industry including futuristic smart and digital farming solutions in water management.

Registration link

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScwd2y49Zix7tc3ShuN31SDnJoljVJwO7MxTIW72MHV Ss9fKA/viewform>



IAI PARTICIPATED ALL INDIA SECRETARIES CONFERENCE ON WATER VISION @ 2047- WAY AHEAD

All-India Secretaries Conference on "Water Vision @2047 – Way Ahead" unfolded in the picturesque setting of Mahabalipuram on January 23rd and 24th, 2024. Making waves at the



conference, IAI's Tamil Nadu chapter actively participated, shedding light on how micro-irrigation can emerge as a pivotal player in curbing the water demand for agriculture across the nation. Their insights sparked engaging discussions on sustainable water management for the future.

IAI JOINS EIMA AGRIMACH 2024 AS SUPPORTING ASSOCIATION



The Irrigation Association of India announce its partnership with EIMA AgriMach as a Supporting Association.

8th EIMA Agri Mach 2024, an International Exhibition & Conference on Agri-Machinery & Equipment, happening from 29th February to 3rd March 2024 at the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru, Karnataka. This is the ultimate business-to-business event that promises to showcase the best and latest in Agri-machineries.

As a Supporting Organization, Irrigation Association of India (IAI) an apex body of Micro-Irrigation Manufacturing Companies in India will be showcasing innovative Micro-Irrigation Technologies, discussing advances in the Irrigation Industry, and presenting futuristic and SMART digital farming solutions in Water Management.



All IAI will also get the discounted price on stall booking at EIMA AGRIMACH 2024 for more details you get in touch with us at director@iaiindia.org or exe-secy@iaiindia.org

IAI PRESIDUM MET JOINT SECRETARY (RFS) AT KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

On January 22nd, Kaushal Jaiswal, President of IAI and Managing Director of Rivulis India, along with Saurabh Sangla, Senior Vice President of IAI and Executive Director of Signet Group, Jayant Jain, Chairman of the Technical Committee of IAI and Managing Director of Sujay Irrigation, and Rajesh Kumar, Director of the Irrigation Association of India, convened with Shri Franklin Khoboung, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, GOI at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. In the meeting, the President of IAI expressed concerns and urged the incorporation of IAI's recommendations pertaining to GST, QR codes, and optional items in the PDMC guidelines.



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FYLLO IN TALKS TO PARTNER COROMANDEL INTERNATIONAL AND DHANUKA AGRITECH TO WIDEN FARMERS' REACH



Fyllo, a trailblazing provider of precision agriculture solutions, is currently engaged in exciting discussions about potential partnerships with industry giants like Coromandel International and Dhanuka Agritech. This strategic collaboration aims to amplify Fyllo's impact by leveraging the extensive on-the-ground presence of these corporations, ensuring a broader reach and deeper engagement with farmers across the country. The future looks promising as these dynamic players join forces to revolutionize the agricultural landscape.

(Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/fyllo-in-talks-to-partner-coromandel-international-and-dhanuka-agritech-to-widen-farmers-reach/articleshow/106454889.cms?from=mdr>)

Eeki IS REVOLUTIONISING INDIA'S FARMING SECTOR WITH ITS AGRITECH INNOVATIONS

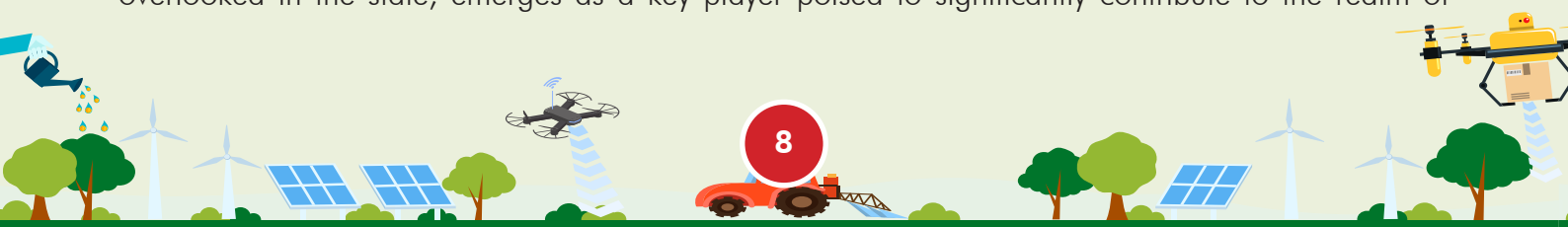
Established in 2018 by Co-founders Amit Kumar and Abhay Singh, Eeki Foods revolutionizes agriculture by infusing technology into the farming process. Utilizing patented growing chambers and IoT control mechanisms, Eeki digitizes farming, collaborating with landowners and farm partners to implement innovative techniques. The outcome is a healthy, cost-effective, and pesticide-free produce, with each one-acre farm capable of yielding an impressive 160 metric tonnes of tomatoes annually.

Source: <https://yourstory.com/2023/09/kota-based-eeeki-revolutionising-indias-farming-sector>

NEW CARBON TRADING SCHEME OPENS UP OPPORTUNITY FOR FARM SECTOR

Embarking on a transformative initiative, the scheme commences with a crucial amendment to the Energy Conservation Act, 2001. This milestone opens avenues for the establishment of carbon trading companies, charged with the task of identifying companies or projects generating credits. The process involves project registration, third-party audit, and facilitating transactions with interested buyers.

Amidst this groundbreaking development, the agricultural landscape takes center stage, especially in a state boasting approximately 5.5 lakh hectares dedicated to natural rubber cultivation. Beyond the prevalent focus on electric vehicles, solar, and hydro-electric energy, the agriculture sector, often overlooked in the state, emerges as a key player poised to significantly contribute to the realm of



carbon farming. The potential impact on these front holds promising prospects for a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Kochi/new-carbon-trading-scheme-opens-up-opportunity-for-agri-sector/article67446175.ece>

INDIA GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ESTIMATION SYSTEM (IN-GRES)

The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Ministry of Jal Shakti Gol has developed a Web-Based Geographic Information System “INdia-Groundwater Resource Estimation System (IN-GRES)” in association with IIT-Hyderabad. IN-GRES provides a common and standardized platform for Ground Water Resource Assessment for the entire country. First Introduced in 2020, the GIS-based online platform INGRES was developed for the dissemination of groundwater resource assessments carried out by the CGWB. With many districts categorized as over-exploited, the portal may support informed decision-making by government, industry, and academia working to address concerns of growing demand, limited supply, and the need for increased water use efficiencies in agriculture.

(Source: <https://cgwb.gov.in/ground-water-resource-assessment-0>)

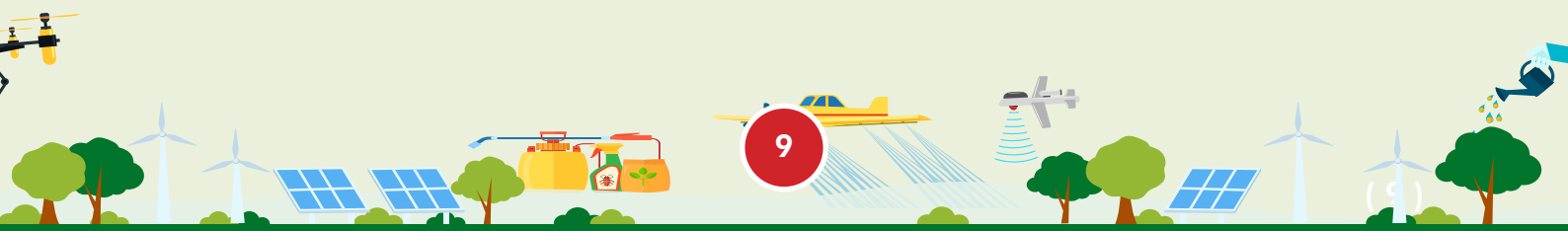
CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE PROJECT SHOWS PROGRESS IN MAHARASHTRA

Climate change poses a significant threat to agriculture in Maharashtra, affecting various facets of farming. This includes shifts in temperature, precipitation patterns, and a rise in extreme weather events. These alterations have pinpointed several vulnerable districts in the state. In response, the state government has implemented diverse measures after recognizing the vulnerabilities in these districts. The project interventions specifically target individual and community farmland,



with the goal of bolstering water security, carbon sequestration, and risk mitigation through crop diversification. Moreover, there is a notable focus on enhancing the value chain by engaging farmer producer organisations (FPOs) to amplify overall profitability.

(Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/pune-news/climate-resilient-agriculture-project-shows-progress-in-maha-101702492447258.html>)



GOVT. OF RAJASTHAN INTRODUCES CLUSTER APPROACHES TO HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Commissionerate of Horticulture, Government of Rajasthan has developed a special project to promote the adoption of Community-based AI solutions for precise water and nutrient requirement of orchards and other site-specific crops. In addition to the introduction of automated Micro-Irrigation technologies, the project will include SMART digital technologies including Mobile app-based crop nutrient and water advisories to farmers. The advisories will enable farmers to manage installed Micro-Irrigation systems with timely advisories on nutrient and water requirements. The project was designed at an estimated budget of Rs 44 crore and will benefit 10,000 farmers in over-exploited districts in the state of Rajasthan with advanced nutrient and water-management-based MI technologies.

(Source: <https://agriculture.rajasthan.gov.in/horticulture/#/home/dptHome>)

BIOCHAR CARBON CREDITS IS FARMER'S BLACK GOLD



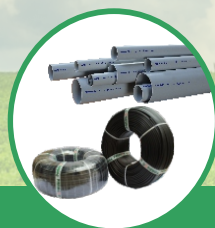
The biochar market is experiencing robust growth, driven by its pivotal role in promoting sustainable practices and addressing environmental challenges. With the global population on the rise, the demand for sustainable agriculture is increasing, underscoring biochar's significance in enhancing productivity, conserving resources, and sequestering carbon. As a versatile tool, biochar offers solutions that align with the imperative of balancing agricultural productivity with environmental stewardship.

<https://www.en.krishakjagat.org/ag-tech-research-news/biochar-carbon-credits-is-farmers-black-gold/>

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HOW IOT AND AI ARE REVOLUTIONIZING INDIAN AGRICULTURE

Dr. Ashish Agrawal, Co-Founder & CTO of WRMS, sheds light on the revolutionary impact of IoT and AI in India's agricultural sector. Explore how technology is spearheading the adoption of sustainable farming practices with the ambitious goal of securing 1 million farms by 2026. To meet the rising demand for food and enhance crop quality, farmers are urged to embrace innovative technologies.

Smart farming, leveraging AI and IoT, emerges as a transformative approach to aid farmers in boosting production.



Source: <https://timestech.in/dr-ashish-agrawal-reveals-how-iot-and-ai-are-revolutionizing-indian-agriculture/>

IT IS NOW MANDATORY TO INSTALL MICRO-IRRIGATION IN THE FIELDS FOR SOLAR PUMP SUBSIDIES



To provide farmers with irrigation facilities, the government is implementing various schemes. One such scheme is the PM Kusum Yojana, wherein the state government offers farmers subsidies of up to 75%. However, for subsidies on solar pumps, the state government has now made it mandatory for farmers to install a micro-irrigation system in their fields. Micro-irrigation includes techniques like drip irrigation, sprinkler

irrigation, and fountain irrigation. Considering the declining groundwater levels in the state, the government has decided to provide subsidies on solar pumps only to those farmers who have installed a micro-irrigation system in their fields.

Source : <https://www.tractorjunction.com/sarkari-yojana-news/solar-pump-subsidy-for-farmers/>

HOW TRADING CARBON IS HELPING EUROPE'S AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

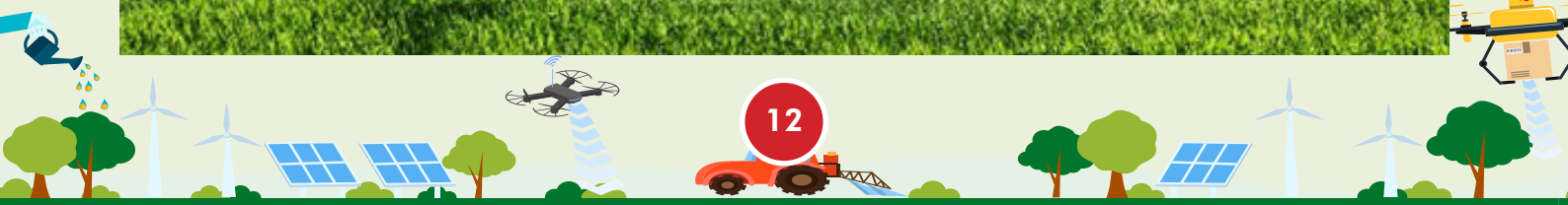
Trading carbon has become a transformative force in Europe's agricultural sector, offering a pathway towards sustainability and environmental stewardship. This practice allows farmers to participate



in carbon markets, earning credits for adopting eco-friendly practices and reducing emissions. By incentivizing climate-smart agriculture, carbon trading not only benefits farmers financially but also contributes to mitigating the impact of agriculture on climate change. The integration of carbon trading in the agricultural sector exemplifies a harmonious blend of economic viability and environmental responsibility, paving the way for a more resilient and sustainable future.

AUTONOMOUS PIVOT SYSTEMS CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMART IRRIGATION

The rise of industrial agriculture has led to a range of innovations, largely out of necessity. To keep pace with growing demand, large-scale farms have needed to adapt their practices and embrace



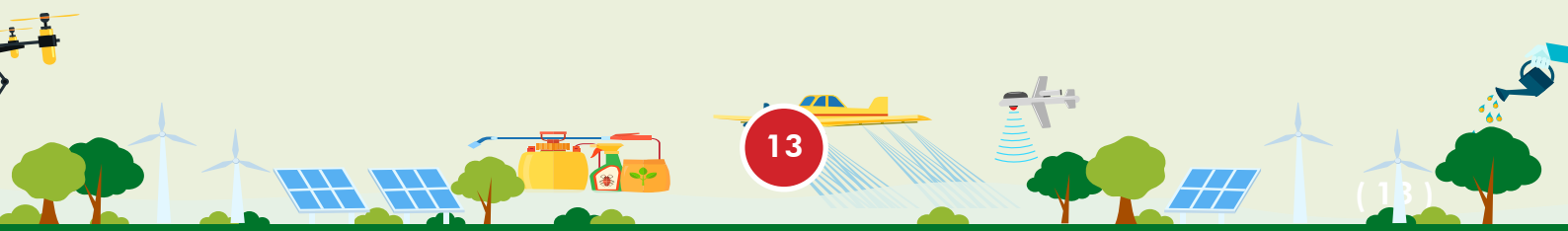
new technology. Now more than ever, farmers must adopt sometimes unfamiliar equipment to feed a growing population instead of relying on human labour to complete daily tasks. Farm automation, or smart farming, has transformed agriculture. Farmers now have access to nearly any automated tool or machine they need.

Source: <https://www.agritechtomorrow.com/article/2021/09/autonomous-pivot-systems-create-new-opportunities-for-smart-irrigation/13174/>

DANISH GOVERNMENT FUNDED IRRIGATION PROJECT TO BENEFIT OVER 12,000 FARMERS IN UGANDA

More than 12,000 small and medium scale farmers across Uganda are set to benefit from a Danish government funded postpaid irrigation systems project launched in Kampala yesterday. The project dubbed 'Enhancing Irrigation to Improve Climate Adaptation and Sustain Smallholder Production Systems in Uganda' will see the farmers trained on using irrigation technology to ensure food production all year round.

Source: <https://farmersreviewafrica.com/danish-government-funded-irrigation-project-to-benefit-over-12000-farmers-in-uganda/>



ABOUT IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Irrigation Association of India (IAI) is an apex industry body established in 1999, representing Micro Irrigation System (MIS) manufacturing companies in India. It is a not-for-profit organization and is working towards the successful implementation of Micro Irrigation in India for the benefit of farmers.

IAI has a registered office at Pune, Maharashtra, India and corporate office at New Delhi. IAI is closely working with the central Government of India and the State Governments. The association has a strong presence in states through IAI State Chapters at Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and North Eastern Region.

What we do

- Policy Advocacy
- Knowledge Dissemination
- Capacity Building
- Convene meeting with Central/State govt. departments to apprise the industry issues
- Sectoral Conference/Workshop to promote Micro Irrigation



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