Household Level Nexus intervention in Nagarbhawi, Bengaluru- February 4th-25th 2016

With the field experience of Beedi Workers Colony, we have taken a step ahead by implementing agricultural interventions at household level under Nexus project. This house is called EcoHouse, located in Nagarbhawi area in Bengaluru. It is based on the principle of Ecological sustainability with reuse of all the waste generated in the house as well as rain water harvesting and use of solar power.

Under Nexus Project in EcoHouse, the crops planned were vegetables and fruits that include tomato, capsicum, broad beans, passion fruit and Papaya to name a few. We recently harvested french beans from EcoHouse. The agricultural activities in the house are being closely monitored to assess the quality of produce as well as suitability of such interventions in an urban household.

Continuous vegetable harvest in Beedi Workers Colony (BWC), Bengaluru- February 1st-26th, 2016

...8th, 9th, 10th harvest and the count goes on for BWC pilot site’s crop harvest. The above picture shows the 10th harvest followed by regular distribution activities to the Anganwadi School (pre-primary) and to different households on a rotational basis. Till date, we have harvested 11.13 kg of cluster beans, 25.5 kg of french beans, 76.75 kg of tomatoes, 5.4 kgs of garden pea, 44.5 kg of brinjal, 6.98 kg of chillies, and around 4 kg each of Cow Pea and Okra. For each of these crops, the plot size was 32 square meters, except for Okra which was 25 square meters.
Annual Review and Planning Meeting, CDD Society, Bengaluru- February 11th-12th, 2016

The Nexus team along with the rest of CDD Society’s staff presented the project review and achievements for the year 2015 and a detailed plan of implementation in the year 2016. Among the highlights of the ARPM meeting was the deliberation on the interconnection between various teams and professionals at CDD Society working on providing urban sanitation solutions ranging from technical to agricultural and reuse options.

National Conference on Peri-urban Agriculture and Ecosystems, New Delhi, February 22nd-23rd, 2016

The team members Ms. Girija and Ms. Tanvi attended this national conference in New Delhi. The focus here was to understand what peri-urban is, the institutional, environmental and policy concerns of these areas as also urban food, nutritional and livelihood security that these areas provide for cities. The team also got a chance to interact with India's 'Father of Green Revolution' Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, known for his leadership in introducing and developing high yielding varieties of wheat in India.

A visit by Prof. V.R. Ramakrishna Parama from UAS-B to Devanahalli FSTP to plan co-composting, Bengaluru, February 25th, 2016

The Nexus team, along with technical team and Prof. V.R. Ramakrishna Parama, a Solid Waste Management expert from University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru, visited the Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant in Devanahalli Town in peri-urban Bengaluru. The professor provided the team with crucial inputs on Co-composting of Municipal wet waste with treated faecal sludge. The aim is to create nutrient-rich compost from faecal sludge and develop it as a valuable marketable product.
Visit to University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru (GKVK) to understand composting methods, Bengaluru, February 25th, 2016

The Nexus and Technical team members visited University of Agricultural Sciences in Bengaluru to understand different types of composting methods like Pit/Drench Composting, Drum Composting, Vermi Composting, Japanese method of composting and Bin Composting. The objective was to understand the operation and maintenance of different composting units and accordingly select a suitable option to be implemented in Devanahalli faecal sludge treatment plant.