

# LEISA Farming

Arun Balamatti  
AME Foundation

# LEISA

Low

External

Input

Sustainable

Agriculture

# LEISA

- LEISA aims at,
  - Improving and stabilising productivity of FARMING SYSTEM
  - Reducing production cost by generating farm inputs, LOCALLY
  - Reversing impact on environment – SOIL, WATER, BIODIVERSITY

# LEISA

- LEISA is,
  - Not organic farming, but a step towards OF
  - Not averse to modern technology, it is a blend of indigenous and modern technologies
  - Not a mere set of technologies but a process of offering 'BASKET OF OPTIONS'

# LEISA

- How does AME Foundation apply LEISA
  - Major thrust is on dry farming
  - On-farm natural resource conservation (NRC) and natural resource utilization (NRU)
  - Empowering farmers groups through participatory processes

# LEISA

- The NRC and NRU
  - Basic operations:
    - On-farm rainwater management
    - Upgrading soil fertility
    - Crops and cropping systems
  - Support operations:
    - Generating manurial biomass
    - Allied income generating activities

# LEISA

- The crux is 'CAPACITY BUILDING'
  - Farmers
  - Enablers

# LEISA

- Farming is externalized
  - Backward and forward linkages are necessary conditions, but not sufficient condition
  - Farmer is the end user of resources, production technologies and development facilities

# LEISA

- The need is to build capacities of small and marginal farmers (middle level)
  - In handling natural resources
  - Managing farming as an enterprise

# LEISA

- The 'PARADIGM SHIFT' should consider,
  - Alternative farming practices for the farmers to handle resources (less exploitative)
  - The role of enablers and the extension approaches (PTD and FFS in University curriculum)
  - Development is a shared responsibility

THANK YOU