ICAR-CCARI/Success Story/2026-5

FROM BACKYARD TO PROSPERITY: A MODEL CLIMATE-SMART POULTRY VILLAGE IN BARDEZ, GOA

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD

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PROBLEMS/OPPORTUNITIES

The NABARD funded backyard poultry project implemented by ICAR-CCARI, Goa with the objective of addressing climate related issues in poultry rearing as well as redefining Package of practices for climate smart poultry farming in Bardez, Goa. Initially, farmers faced challenges such as poor flock size, high chick mortality, lack of vaccination knowledge, unstructured breeding, and climate-related stress, especially during monsoon and summer seasons.

INTERVENTIONS

Improved poultry germplasms(Srinidhi and Gramapriya), poultry feed, and essential equipments (feeder and waterer) were provided to the farmers as a strategic intervention to boost productivity. Total of 4 trainings and 15demonstrationswere conducted to improve their skills in scientific housing, brooding, feeding,incubation, vaccination, and biosecurity measures. Farmers adopted semi-intensive systems, low-cost feeding using local herbs, and climate-smart practices such as elevated sheds, proper litter management, and seasonal protection. Farmers also adopted incubation techniques (small scale/ solar incubator) for hatching chicks, enabling self-reliance in flock expansion and reducing dependence on external chick supply, selective breeding, and use of herbal supplements (CCARI-Phytocare) to improve flock health and productivity.

Interaction-cum-Demonstration at Aldona

Training at ICAR-CCARI, Old Goa

Demonstration at LilwynEco Agri Farm, Bardez

Input Distribution at ICAR- CCARI, Goa

IMPACT

The initiative brought significant transformation among 50 beneficiary farmers, including 18 women poultry farmers, by strengthening backyard poultry as a sustainable livelihood. At 1 month, the average body weight was 123 g (n=25), which increased to 1460 g by 13 weeks under field conditions in a semi-intensive system. Flock sizes increased from 10–12 birds to 35–50 birds, accompanied by reduced mortality and improved body weight (550–700 g). Average monthly egg production rose by 120%, with eggs fetching ₹180–₹200 per dozen, enabling farmers to earn ₹2,500–₹4,500 per month, and some achieving annual incomes up to ₹97,000. A few farmers demonstrated remarkable success, recording fourfold flock expansion and even zero mortality, sustaining income through minimal inputs and family

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labour. Employment generation doubled from 11.4 to 22.8 man-days, while household nutritional security improved, with egg consumption increasing 1.7 times and meat consumption 1.57 times. Farmers also reported climate-related challenges such as reduced egg production (38%), slow growth (30%), and increased summer mortality (20%). In response, location-specific poultry husbandry practices for the west coastal climate, a modified vaccination schedule for the taluka, and seasonal management advisories were developed and disseminated. At the community level, the initiative enhanced income through the sale of eggs, chicks, and poultry meat, generated local employment, and improved household nutrition while reducing input costs. Overall, the model highlights how scientific guidance, skill development, and efficient use of local resources can transform backyard poultry into a resilient, climate-smart livelihood for rural communities.

Corjuem, Bardez

Nachinola, Bardez

Guirim, Bardez

Aldona, Bardez

Aldona, Bardez

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Financial support provided by the NABARD, Goa is duly acknowledgedfor the project “Promotion of improved indigenous backyard poultry through scientific interventions for sustainable poultry production and livelihood security in Goa”.Research was supported by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Government of India.