

# Reflections

## Field to Forum

ecociate

September  
2025

Preserving Moments • Sharing Learnings • Exploring Collaborations

A monthly glimpse into our engagements, learnings, and collaborations with institutions, partners, and communities.





# Ecociate at 8th ASEAN Inclusive Business Forum in Kuala Lumpur

Event organized by the Government of Malaysia, UN ESCAP, OECD, Oxfam International, and partners

Our Directors, Mr. Kirti and Mr. Santosh, represented Ecociate and the Inclusive Business Ecosystem Network (IBEN) at the 8th ASEAN Inclusive Business Forum. During the panel on Capacity Building and Talent Development Framework for Strengthening Inclusive Business, Mr. Kirti shared valuable insights and experiences from the Inclusive Business Coaching Program in India, highlighting practical learnings and pathways to strengthen the IB ecosystem.





# Ecociate at Developing Landscape Implementation and Investment Plans workshop by Consortium for Agroecology Transformation (CAT)

Ecociate's work in the Dantewada landscape was recognized for its collaborative approach in designing investment plans for agroecology-led transformation. Our Director, Mr. Ashwini, along with Mr. Santosh and Ms. Payal, contributed to this initiative. Mr. Ashwini participated as a panelist at Groundwork 1.0 – Developing Landscape Implementation and Investment Plans, hosted by the Consortium for Agroecological Transformations (CAT). He shared key learnings and insights from our work with CAT and NIRMAN in Dantewada..

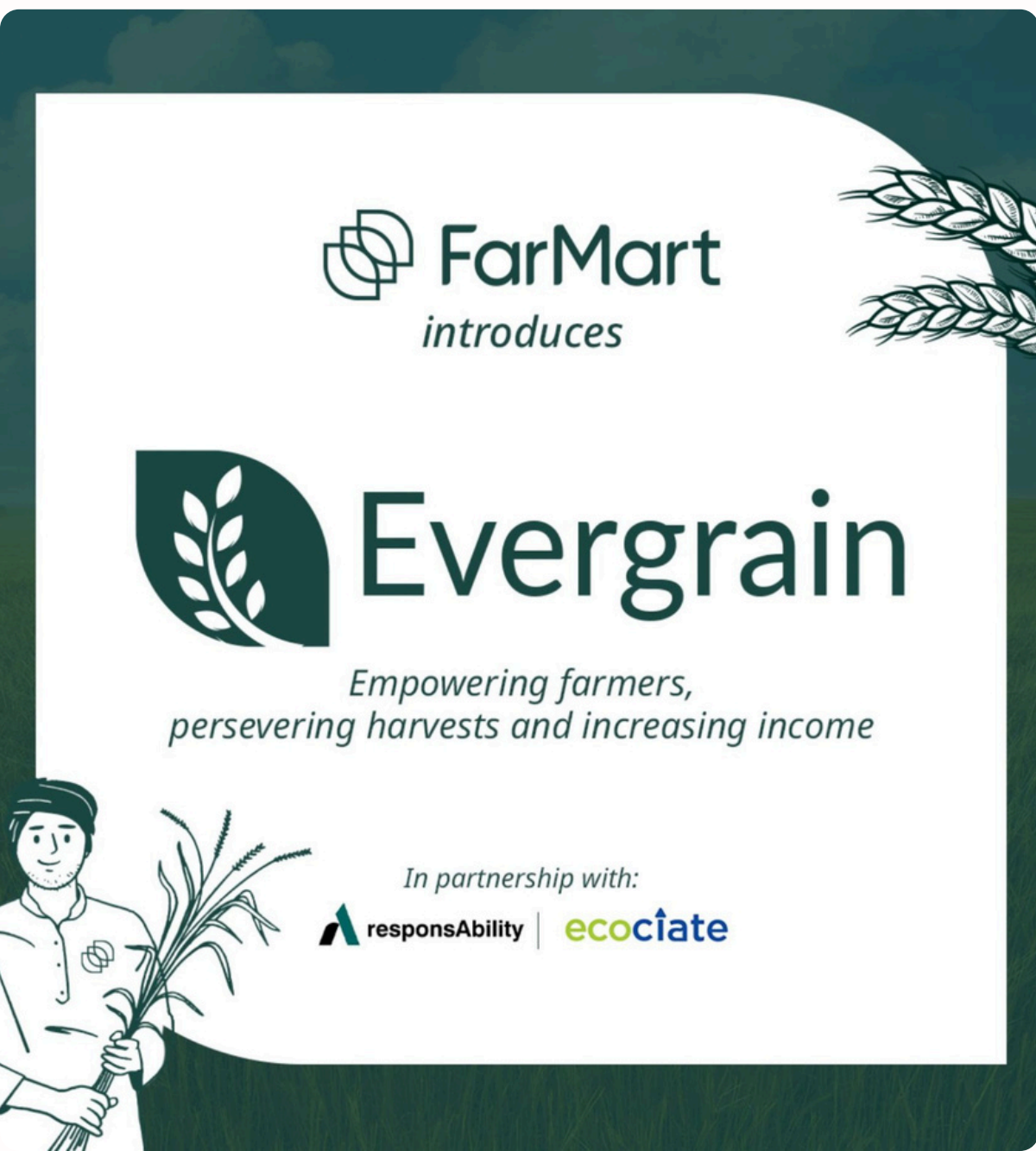




# Empowering Farmers to Reduce Post-Harvest Losses in Paddy & Wheat

Insights from farmer interviews in UP, Bihar & MP

As part of our engagement with FarMart, we conducted training need assessment in three states to assess food grain losses in paddy and wheat. Farmers across districts face considerable losses during harvesting, threshing, storage, and selling. Field-level insights collected through these discussions are essential for designing effective training and capacity-building programs for farmers to reduce post-harvest losses.





# Sinppet's from field visit in Karnataka to understand Agroecology led initiatives

Our team had a highly productive field visit in Karnataka, engaging with the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, to learn about their trials on Agroecology-based cropping systems. They also visited Sirsi in Uttara Kannada district, where the SCODWES team facilitated insightful field visits and discussions with diverse stakeholders, helping us better understand the enablers and challenges for agroecology-led inclusion of marginalized communities.





# Reflections from interactions with Small Tea Growers in Assam

As part of the IDH supported Small Tea Growers Sustainability Program (STGSP), Ecociate team interacted with STGs in Upper Assam. The field visit offered valuable insights on how sustainable change in agriculture grows gradually, like a well-tended tea bush. Small tea growers are steadily adopting better practices—soil testing, pruning, farm diaries, and integrated management—leading to improved yield and quality. Many are also diversifying into mushrooms, chillies, and poultry to support household incomes.





# Reflections from a field Immersen at G.K. Aqua, Kuala Lumpur

Our team visited the breeding unit of G.K. Aqua on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur, a leading biotechnology-driven Aquaculture firm pioneering innovative and inclusive approaches in shrimp farming. Among its many accolades, G.K. Aqua was awarded “Inclusive Business of the Year” during the ASEAN Inclusive Business Forum 2024. We are grateful to Mr. Giva Kuppusamy, CEO of G.K. Aqua, and his team for hosting such an insightful field visit.





# Exploring India - Vietnam Collaborations at World Food India, 2025

It was a pleasure reconnecting with Ms. Trinh Huong, Deputy Director General at the Agency for Private Enterprise & Cooperative Development, Ministry of Finance, Vietnam, and Mr. Loc Phan, Founder and Managing Director of VNV Foods, Vietnam, alongside Mr. Raj Ganguly, Senior Agriculture Specialist at the World Bank, on the sidelines of World Food India 2025. We discussed promising opportunities for India-Vietnam collaboration, particularly in the food processing sector.





# Connecting with Future Leaders

## Nurturing Young Minds to Shape an Inclusive and Sustainable Future

In our quest to bridge the gap between academia and industry, our Director, Mr. Nirmallaya, facilitated a design thinking challenge called 'Sandbox CCU' for students of Techno India University, Kolkata where more than 600 students participated to develop innovative solution prototypes for real life problems of large metro Cities like Kolkata. During the workshop, he shared his practical insights and actional solutions with students to support them in developing real world solutions.





# From Classroom to Policy: Guiding Future Leaders



To bridge the gap between academia and practice, our Directors, Mr. Nirmallya and Mr. Santosh, engaged with students of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi in insightful sessions on inclusive and sustainable business models for empowering communities at the base of the pyramid. These discussions will support students in developing informed and practical policy papers.







**Our heartfelt thanks to our partners, well-wishers, and organizations whose constant support has made our work impactful.**

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