



# **KARNATAKA STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ UNIVERSITY, GADAG**



**National Reconstruction through Rural Reconstruction**

# DeSSi Project

**Preamble :** A Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University Act, 2016 was enacted for establishment of a unitary University for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in the State of Karnataka for teaching, training, research on Sustainable Development and Panchayat Raj Institutions. This Act was enacted with an intention to strengthen the local self governance system and to give impetus for the study and research for a comprehensive Rural Development in the state of Karnataka.



**1.1 The Vision of the University:** The Vision of the University is to act as a centre of excellence to transform rural society by the creation of a dedicated, committed human resource which participates in the rural development process to ensure sustainable rural development and broad based improvement in the quality of life of rural population.



**1.2 The Mission of the University:** The mission of the University is to impart education and training to various stake holders for rapid economic growth and sustainable development that reduces poverty and creates employment opportunities, access to essential services in health, education and skill development, leading to inclusive growth through the democratic mechanism of Panchayat Raj institutions, where people decide their own welfare and economic and socio-political development.

**Need of the Project:** As per census 2011, 67 per cent of population depended on agriculture and its allied activities in India. It clearly shows that agriculture and its allied activities are the major components of rural economy. Hence development of these sectors is the need of the hour. All the post graduates programs of the KSRDPR University are framed with rural development focus. In view of such the university intends to transform the rural society by creating dedicated and committed human resource for the rural development process.

With this objective the DeSSi project of the university aims in developing the feasible, viable and sustainable model. The project also focuses on to design and prove virtual academy consisting of four way information between scientific institution consortiums (Laboratory to Laboratory), between Institutions and users (Laboratory to Land) between traditional rural knowledge base to technical experts (Land to Laboratory). In this connection the KSRDPR University strives to improve agriculture economy through judicious use of natural resources by adopting integrated farming approach, processing and value addition and linking farmers produce and products to multilevel markets and also establish technology parks and Bio-village resource centers of learning for benefit of its stake holders. This project also encourages and benefits the reverse migrants. Hence it is a need to undertake the DeSSi project.

## Objectives:

1. **Experiential Learning:** The objective of this project is to provide opportunities to learn through experience (learning through reflection of doing) for all its stake holders.
2. **Learning by Doing:** It is a hands-on approach of learning in which both students and teachers must interact with their environment in order to adapt and learn.
3. **Field Exposure:** The objective is to gain the field exposure in the real time scenarios by students, teachers and community.
4. **Mapping of theory to experience:** The objective is to draw the link between theory and experience and to reduce the gap between both of them in oneself.
5. To create the **feasible, viable and sustainable model** in the challenging environment.
6. To implement **lab to land and land to lab** concept.

**Proposed Model:** As per the objectives the following **DeSSi Model** is proposed in the project with a tag line “National Reconstruction through Rural Reconstruction”. The Acronym of DeSSi is elaborated as follows:

De: Demonstratable

S: Scalable

S: Sustainable

I: Initiatives



Figure 1: Proposed Model of DeSSi.

In the above model, there are three components.

**1. Demonstratable:** “The Project has to be clearly apparent or capable of being logically proved on the fields”. It gives a land to lab and lab to land approach for the projects to implement the theories in land and implemented land practices will be verified back in the lab for its authenticity. Their by creating the Demonstratable models in the fields with the help of theoretical framework and background

provable, obvious, verifiable,  
incontrovertible, evident,  
evincible, undeniable,  
attestable, unmistakable



**2. Scalable:** “Scalability is a system’s capability to adapt easily to increased or expanding scope of the demonstrated model such as Products, Services, and Processes etc.” The Second component of the proposed model will explain the scalability of the demonstrated model in the first step. The scalability may be in the perspective of semi or finished products, services or process. But the emphasis will be give to the development of end to end solutions in this project.



**3. Sustainable:** The Sustainable component of the DeSSi model will give a prominence on **Development** that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This will be achieved by adopting the concept of “Avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance of the Ecosystem”.



**Phase wise Plan:** DeSSi project will be planned, implemented, monitored, and evaluated in a phase wise manner for the period of five years (2020-2025). The detail of the Phase wise plan is as shown below.

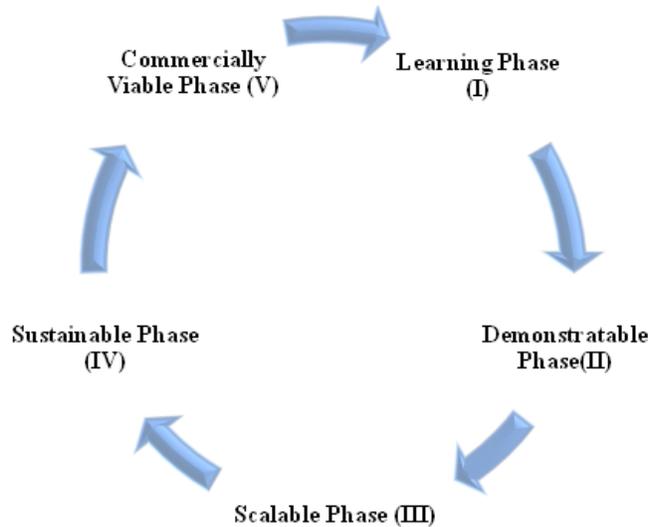


Figure 3: Phase wise Plan of DeSSi Project.

**DeSSi Project Utilities:**

**Students will get Rural**

**Orientation:** Students will get insights on the rural people, trends, and ideas that will sensitize them towards the rural orientation. Interaction with working group members will give new dimension of the learning to the students.

**Experiential Learning:** DeSSi project helps to cultivate the



experiential learning through land to lab and lab to land practices for all the students, teachers, and community involved in the project.

**Collaborative Work:** DeSSi project will provide opportunities for collaborative work among students, teachers, Successful farmers, NGO's, Self Help Groups, Government and Non Government organization and community at the large.

Fig 4: Utility of DeSSi Project.

**Mapping of theory to experience:** DeSSi Project will create a platform for verifying the theoretical knowledge in the field by experiencing it live by one self. This project will also give an ample opportunities and challenges for proving the theoretical concepts in to field experiences. This method of approach will give, all together a new dimension to the teaching and learning approach for all the project members. This will have a larger impact on the learning curve of the individual.

**Construction of Demonstratable Model:** After the initial period of learning in this project, there is a larger scope for developing the Demonstratable model of the relevant project. These Demonstratable models will help to illustrate and clear any doubts, complexities to the farmers. Further the developed model can be replicated in the farmer's fields by extending the hand holding support from the project owners of DeSSi.

**Convergence of Line Departments:** The DeSSi Project will provide many opportunities for all the project members and stake holders to work in line with all line departments. This will help to create a strong knowledge base and pool of experts from both academia and fields. These pools of experts from both academia and field will lead to a creation of greater knowledge base, which will in turn benefit the respective projects owners of DeSSi and the members of the Line Department along with the other fraternity.

**Community Participation and Engagement:** The DeSSi project will be providing a scope and opportunities for participation of community their by stressing the people centric orientation of the University. Further the project will help to engage the likeminded people to share and contribute their ideas, knowledge and experience. In this way the DeSSi Project will engage the community participation.

**Conclusion:** The DeSSi project is an effort and attempt of the University to gain the field experience for its faculty and students. This project will also provide the platform for university faculty and students to implement their theoretical knowledge in the fields and get it verified in a practical way.