

Adapting to Rainfall Extremes: Disaster Risk Reduction and Agriculture Strategies

Date: 31st July 2025 time: 10:30 to 18:00 Hrs.

The monsoon of 2025 has demonstrated an unusual and highly dynamic pattern—marked by early onset, unusually fast progression from Kerala to Maharashtra, followed by stagnation in central India, and then a sudden rush across Gujarat around mid-June. While monsoon onset typically signals relief and the start of the kharif season, the sharp variations in its progression this year may create multiple uncertainties for agriculture.

In Gujarat, where agriculture is highly sensitive to the rhythm of monsoon rains, this uneven and abrupt monsoon pattern has disrupted sowing schedules, altered evapotranspiration rates, and introduced new challenges in pest and disease management. The rapid drop in Evapo-Transpiration post-June 18, combined with high humidity and overcast conditions, has directly affected crop physiology, nutrient absorption, disease resistance, and quality traits in vegetables, pulses, cereals, and medicinal plants.

This training program aims to sensitize Agriculture Officers, Horticulture Officers, and field-level extension professionals with timely insights into the unique behaviour of Monsoon 2025 and its implications for Gujarat's farming landscape. Participants will engage with data trends, scientific explanations, and field-level case studies that highlight both the risks and possible mitigation strategies for such unpredictable weather behaviour.

The training will also focus on practical adaptation strategies such as revising sowing windows, crop selection based on soil-water balance, the importance of evapotranspiration monitoring, and early-warning disease management practices. The program will help officers translate climate information into actionable advice for farmers, enhancing resilience in the face of changing monsoon behaviour. Through this program, participants will be encouraged to identify district-level trends and co-create advisory formats for different crop zones. The training emphasizes data-informed decision-making and aims to improve ground-level preparedness for the remainder of the monsoon and beyond.