



**Ministry of Agriculture
& Farmers Welfare,
Government of India**

ICAR–CRRI Leads Carbon Farming Initiative in Odisha to Support Farmers and Climate Goals

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has entrusted ICAR–Central Rice Research Institute (ICAR–CRRI), Cuttack, with the implementation of the project titled “Harnessing the Benefits of Carbon Farming vis-à-vis Carbon Credit for Balancing Economic Development with Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation.” The project is funded by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, and is being implemented in selected villages of Ganjam and Bhadrak districts of Odisha. The total approved budget for the project is ₹134.89 lakhs. The project is planned for a duration of two years, spanning the period from 2025 to 2027.

A key objective of the project is to facilitate the generation of high-quality carbon credits through scientifically validated practices, with technical backstopping from ICAR–CRRI. By linking climate mitigation with farm-level economic benefits, the initiative aims to provide farmers with an additional income stream while contributing to sustainable agriculture and national climate change adaptation and mitigation goals.

The initiative focuses on promoting climate-smart agricultural practices in rice cultivation, particularly Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) and Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD), with the objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving resource-use efficiency. Farmers participating in the project are being trained and supported through capacity-building programmes and the dissemination of technical materials such as ready reckoners, bulletins, and extension leaflets.