

From members to momentum: Socio-personal catalysts of FPO growth in Andhra Pradesh

D Naveen, G D S Kumar, M S Rao, V Srinivasa Rao, T Prasantha Kumar and K Suseela
Department of Agricultural Extension Education, Acharya N G Ranga Agricultural University,
Agricultural College, Bapatla , Andhra Pradesh, India

ABSTRACT

The effectiveness and sustainability of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) are significantly influenced by the socio-personal characteristics of their members. This study was conducted in Andhra Pradesh to examine how key socio-personal factor, namely age, education, duration of FPO membership and training exposure, affect the performance and functioning of FPOs. A total of 240 respondents were selected from 24 FPOs across three purposively chosen districts: Visakhapatnam, Guntur and Anantapur. The findings revealed that the majority of members belonged to the middle-age group and had attained at least high school education. Most were relatively new entrants into FPOs, reflecting growing institutional trust, and had undergone a moderate level of training. The study highlights the important role of socio-personal traits in shaping participation, leadership, knowledge application and overall organizational performance. These insights emphasize the need for tailored capacity-building interventions and engagement strategies that align with the diverse profiles of FPO members.

Keywords: *Andhra Pradesh, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), FPO performance, Member participation, Socio-personal characteristics and Training exposure*