



*“SRT humming..... Soil enriching, Crops booming and Farmers Empowering”*

## SRT Goes Global:

### From the World Bank to the Global Farmer Network

Namaskar,

Welcome to the 180th edition of the Saguna Rural Foundation (SRF) Newsletter!

#### 1. Presentation at the World Bank: SRT in Global Spotlight

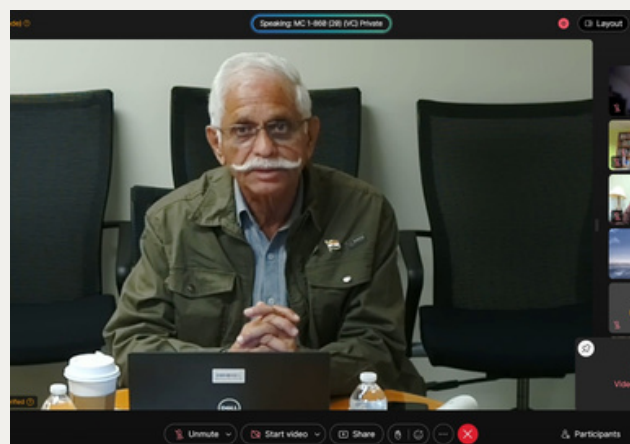
The Agriculture, Food & Rural Development Thematic Group of the World Bank hosted a special hybrid webinar on April 14, 2025, titled: **“Regenerative Agriculture Practices to Address Soil Health, Improve Water Infiltration, and Sequester Carbon”**. Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle presented the **Saguna Regenerative Technique (SRT)** –a zero-till, sustainable method now practiced by thousands of farmers across Maharashtra, India.

#### Panel of Discussants:

- Dr. George W. Bird, Professor Emeritus, Michigan State University
- Mr. Kevin Cleaver, Sr. Consultant, Centennial Group; formerly AVP, IFAD
- Mr. Willem G. Janssen, formerly Lead Agricultural Economist, World Bank

**Moderator:** Ms. Preeti Ahuja, Chair, Agr., Food & Rural Development TG, Sr. Consultant, FAO and Dr Emmanuel D’Silva, Ex World Bank, subject specialist.

👉 Watch the recording here: [World Bank Webinar Recording](#)



## 2. Meeting with NASDA CEO - Mr Ted McKinney

On 15th morning, GFN team has been able to schedule a lunch meeting with Ted McKinney. Ted is a long-time friend of the GFN and currently serves as CEO for the National Association of State Agriculture Secretaries. In this position, he is coordinating work and connections between US State Department of agriculture and potential global partners with recent emphasis in Kenya and India.



## 3. Global Farmer Network: Farmer Declaration on Regenerative Agriculture

Chandrashekhhar Bhadsavle was specially invited by the **Global Farmer Network (GFN)** to co-develop the “**Regenerative Agriculture: A Farmer Declaration**” as part of an exclusive focus group held from April 15–17, 2025, at Chesapeake Farms, Maryland, USA.

Representing India and the Saguna Rural Foundation, Chandrashekhhar joined seven other leading farmers from across the world. Over three days, this group collaboratively crafted a unified, farmer-led definition and set of principles for regenerative agriculture, providing a global voice for farmers in the sustainability movement.



#### 4. Showcasing SRT at the Cotton Association of India (CAI)

On April 12, 2025, the Cotton Association of India (CAI) hosted a national training session where Mr. Anil Nivalkar, SRT expert from Saguna Rural Foundation, and Mr. Umesh Pohadare, a cotton farmer from Yavatmal practicing SRT, presented the technique to a gathering of over 100 farmers from across India.



The session highlighted how SRT can significantly improve cotton yields while conserving soil and water—offering a resilient solution for India's cotton-growing regions.

#### 5. SRT No-Till Farmers showing earthworms in hot hot weather.

SRT farmers from Jalgaon (Shri Nitesh Borse, +91 97309 64356) and from Chandrapur (Shri Krishna Gedam, +91 97631 66223) in the hot hot summer temperatures ranging 43 - 44 - 45 degree Celsius, are excited showing appearance of earthworm babies in their SRT plots. “I saw these pictures three days ago while with my brother in Atlanta; momentarily me too enjoyed heavenly happiness” - Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle.



***Stay tuned for more updates as we continue our journey towards a greener and more sustainable future.***

***Thank you!***



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