



## Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) Integral University, Lucknow

### Brief report on “Compost Connect: Building Sustainable Communities”

#### कम्पोस्ट कनेक्ट: टिकाऊ समुदायों का निर्माण

The Integral Institute of Agricultural Sciences and Technology recently hosted a collaborative and comprehensive Goshti titled "Compost Connect: Building Sustainable Communities." In anwari village. This innovative initiative, held on 13 Jan 2020, brought together a diverse group of participants, including farmers, educators, and under graduate students, to promote sustainable practices and foster resilient communities through composting.

Mr. Nadeem Khan, Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture, organised the program which offered a multifaceted exploration of composting. Through a dynamic blend of interactive lectures, hands-on workshops, group discussions, and field demonstrations, participants embarked on a transformative journey to deepen their understanding of composting principles and techniques and to explore the potential of composting to address pressing environmental and social challenges. The Goshti covered a wide spectrum of topics, ranging from the fundamentals of composting science to practical strategies for implementing and managing composting initiatives at various scales. Participants gained insights into the biological processes underlying composting, the importance of carbon-to-nitrogen ratios, and the role of microorganisms in decomposition. They also learned about different composting methods, including traditional heap composting, vermicomposting, and aerobic and anaerobic digestion, and discussed the suitability of each approach for different contexts. Hands-on workshops provided participants with valuable experiential learning opportunities, allowing them to roll up their sleeves and actively engage in composting activities. From building and maintaining compost piles to monitoring temperature and moisture levels, attendees gained practical skills and confidence in their ability to initiate and manage composting projects in their communities. In addition to technical aspects, the program emphasized the broader societal and environmental benefits of composting. Participants explored the role of composting in waste diversion, soil fertility enhancement, carbon sequestration, and mitigating the impacts of climate change. They also discussed strategies for promoting composting awareness and adoption within their communities and identified collaborative opportunities for advancing composting initiatives on a larger scale. Armed with newfound knowledge, skills, and inspiration, attendees departed the program equipped to serve as envoy for composting training.

Under the esteemed guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Mohd. Haris Siddiqui, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Science and Technology at Integral University and Dr. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture at IIAST, Integral University, "Compost Connect: Building Sustainable Communities" exemplified the power of collaboration, education, and collective action in driving meaningful progress towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

Glimpses of the Goshti



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