the new revolution in India: Sundarban pattern of organic women cooperative

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Challenging geographical conditions:
- Riverine islands, and
- Generally low lying land masses
Sundarban Region, India

- Livelihood: agriculture, fishing, dairying, poultry, forest honey collection
- 34% below poverty line & 33% backward classes
- Limited opportunities: men generally migrate to urban areas for work
Sundarban Dairy Cooperative

- Cooperative was registered in 1997
- Functioned seasonally for 4-6 months
- There was no proper system in place
- Cooperative got fully closed in 2014
Cooperative Reborn in November 2015: By a Group of Young Professionals...
Sundarban Women Coop: the New Revolution

New Approach
100% quality testing of milk & other produce
100% payment into Bank Accounts of Women members

Organic is the way forward
Young Professionals energized the Community

- Empowerment of small and marginal women farmers
- Arrest exploitation by middle-men & stop distress selling by farmers
- Provide better price & doubling farmers' income by 2020
- Quality life for the women farmers and their children

Organic is the way forward
Organic is the way forward

2018: Double Celebration – Two National Awards

National Dairy Development Board, India

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, India
Sundarban Coop: A journey of about 3 years...

- 65 Village level women dairy coop societies
- More than 3500 members
- Promotion of indigenous cows
- Automatic milk collection systems
- No plastic use in the value chain
- Ethno-veterinary medicines for livestock

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Link to Sundarini video...
Organic is the way forward

Thank You