

# Ms. Bhushana Arvind Karandikar

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## Contact Information:

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## Educational Qualification:

Masters in Economics: June 1985: Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune

### *Technical trainings*

- Higher Diploma in Cooperation
  - National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi
- Certificate Course in Horticulture Production
  - University of Agriculture Rehovot, Israel
- Taxation Reforms
  - National Institute of Public Finance Policy, New Delhi

## Work Experience

Agribusiness Consultant and faculty for Agri trade	Jan 2005-till date	IFPRI, Harvest Plus, BAIF, CITA
Deputy Commissioner of Sales tax	Feb2001-Dec2004	Government of Maharashtra
Sales Tax Officer Grade I	Aug93-Jan2001	Government of Maharashtra
Assistant Director, MSAMB Deputy General Manager Mahagrapes	May 89-Aug93	Government of Maharashtra

**Brief Description: 2005 till date**

### Current work

#### *Research Collaborator for IFPRI, Washington DC*

#### **Study on Consumer Awareness in India about Dairy**

India is the largest milk producer and has various models of supply chain for the same. This study tries to understand the consumers' perception of food safety attributes of dairy products. The study also includes rural consumers of dairy

### *Research Collaborator for HarvestPlus, Washington DC*

Harvest plus has a unique concept of biofortified food (cereals in India) to fight the malnutrition. Recently it launched ICTP8203Fe variety of Iron rich bajara. The study tried to gauge the farmers feedback on consumption, cultivation, market, post harvest attributes of this Bajara .

### **Completed work:**

### *Advisor, Center for International Trade in Agriculture (CITA) and Centre for WTO Studies*

#### **Study on Private Standards**

The international trade in agriculture commodities has witnessed a surge in the private standards in recent years. This study aims to identify prevalent standards, assess the compliance cost and the overall impact of the same on India's export

### *Research Collaborator for IFPRI, Washington DC*

#### **Organized retail marketing**

The study of organized retail marketing is undertaken from the perspective of procurement protocols and service delivery mechanisms .It will profile the consumer and his/her preferences, demand patterns as well as map the linkages with the farmers.

### *Research Collaborator for IFPRI, Washington DC*

- **Assessment of demand for food safety in India**

This study was aimed at evaluation of food attributes valued by the consumers in developing countries. The research question addressed whether consumer is willing to pay higher premium for safer food, if so, how much and how this surplus can be transmitted to the small and marginal producers.

- **Variety Choice by farmers**

The study undertaken was to understand how the farmers, specially the small and marginal farmers, select the variety for the staples. What are the traits that are preferred, valued the most by these farmers

- **Consumer Acceptance of pearl Millet variety**

As higher iron content is the invisible trait, consumer's response to this variety through various information treatments along with the taste rounds was studied. The study also attempted to quantify the price the consumer is ready to pay for these attributes through auctions.

### *Advisor, Center for International Trade in Agriculture (CITA) and UNCTAD*

- **UNCTAD study on Socio Economic Implications of GI registration of agriculture products**

GI is a signaling device that differentiates between the products, pointing to origin of product. In India, it is also perceived as the tool for the rural development, where GI is awarded to the communities practicing old trades or agricultural practices. The study attempted to capture and quantifies the impact of GI registration, across the supply chain with farmers being the focus group

- **UNCTAD study on Export potential for Tribal growers**

Though India is the largest producer of mangoes, its share of export in the world market is minimal. This study was to map the existing practices of mango marketing in the remote tribal belt and design the possible interventions to push the tribal across the value chain.

### *Study on Seasonal migration*

Though significant in size and magnitude, rural to rural migration has remained the least documented subject. This study tried to profile one subset of this migration, namely seasonal migration by profiling the workers and industries that employ these migrants.

### *Developing market channels for small and marginal farmers through various uniquely designed and implemented interventions*

- “Mahagrapes “ Core Team Member of the unique and successful organisation of linking small farmers to lucrative European Markets , establishing export of fresh produce via sea ,using precooling technology
- Aggregator (NGO, Producers Associations, Traceability and Delivery mechanisms)
- Skills Tool Kit for Women groups (games, exposure visits, soft skills for micro business)
- Intermediary food processing activities Market tie ups for women groups
- Dharamkata (‘Just’ market practices) Providing appropriate apparatus to the small rural markets, awareness
- Pilot for Internet based Buyer seller platform for farmers and institutional Buyers

### **Brief Description: Before 2005**

#### *Deputy Commissioner of Sales tax (Feb 2001-Dec2004)*

- Designing of VAT for the state
  - Designing of taxation procedures
  - Designing of audit system
  - Designing of forms and assessment procedures
- Mahavikas Automation system of Sales tax(and VAT)
  - Estimation of transaction flow
  - Interface with other departments
  - Interface with other states

#### *Sales Tax Officer Grade I (August 93-Feb 2001)*

- Assessments of firms
- Recovery of tax Dues

- Generation of reports for additional Resource Mobilization
- Deputed by the department to the World Bank Assignment on Resource mobilization

***Assistant Director- Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board (May 89-Aug93)***

***Deputy General Manager –Mahagrapes***

- Organization and administration of farmers cooperatives
- Developing information network for regulated markets
- Identifying exportable agriculture produce
- Import and dissemination of technology to farmers for export activity
- Logistics of export, organizing farm produce, containers, shipping etc.
- Documentation and Organising export credit, finance
- Liaisoning with central government agencies, financial institutions.

**Articles published**

- Developing country consumers’ demand for food safety and quality: Is Mumbai ready for certified and organic fruits? *By Ekin Birol, Devesh Roy, Katharina Deffner and Bhushana Karandikar* - presented at the International Association of Agricultural Economists Conference, Beijing, China, August 16-22, 2009
- A Latent Class Approach to Investigating Farmer Demand for Biofortified Staple Food Crops in Developing Countries: The Case of High-Iron Pearl Millet in Maharashtra, India - *By Ekin Birol, Dorene Asare-Marfo, Bhushana Karandikar and Devesh Roy* - HarvestPlus Working Paper | October 2011

**Invited as speaker / panelist at Conferences**

1) International Conference on Sharing Innovative Agribusiness solutions (UNIDO) Cairo, Egypt Nov 2008

2) Leveraging Agriculture for Improving NUTRITION and HEALTH IFPRI 2020 Conference ,New Delhi Feb 2012

3) STDF/LNV/World Bank Workshop” Public- Private Partnerships in support of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Capacity, Hague October 2010