
MINI K



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SKYPE ID:

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DOB: 7 MARCH 1974

GENDER: FEMALE

OBJECTIVE

My research interests include, Agrarian studies, development studies, participation and empowerment, gender studies, anthropology of the state, policy and governance, Actor-Network Theory and Ethnography. My professional interest is in bringing about changes in the rural sector through meaningful collaboration between academia and development interventions.

SKILLS

Practitioner turned researcher, trained in conducting research in Sciences and Social Sciences. Course Development and Teaching at University Level
 Programme Planning and Implementation, SHG Development, and Women Empowerment

EXPERIENCE

TEACHING ASSISTANT

(AS PART OF Ph.D.)

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI (IITD)

www.iitd.ac.in

2 January 2012 – 31 December 2016

Worked with the research supervisor and assisted her in collecting the reading materials, designing courses and tutorials, formulating course evaluation methods, coordinating exams and evaluating the same for eight courses on development and policy studies offered for UG students at IIT Delhi.

DISTRICT MANAGER

(VFPC IDUKKI, KERALA)

DEPUTY MANAGER

(TRAINING, PRODUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY)

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

(KRISHIYANKANAM)

VEGETABLE AND FRUIT PROMOTION COUNCIL KERALAM

(FORMER KERALA HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME)

www.vfpck.org

21 April 1999 – Till date

(On study leave from 02 Jan 2012 to 31 March 2018)

Planning, implementing and coordinating development activities in rural and agricultural sector; conceptualizing and implementing capacity building programmes for Self-Help Groups and farmer-led markets; Empowering women farmers; and equipping and empowering staff, farmers and other stake holders.

Coordinating state level activities in production and technology and Participatory Technology Development (PTD) in collaboration with multi-stakeholders.

Production and publication of council magazine, brochures, reports, documentaries, radio talks etc.

Overall co-ordination and management of the council's activities in a district in liaison with other agencies and people's representatives.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (POLICY STUDIES)

(2019 CGPA 9.54/10)

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI

MSc. (ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES)

(1998 WITH OGPA 9.51/10)

TAMILNADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

BSc. (AGRICULTURE)

(1995 WITH OGPA 8.9/10)

KERALA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

RESUME

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PERSONAL DETAILS

Current address : F-303, Pawitra Apartments,
 Vasundhara Enclave,
 New Delhi- 110096, India

Permanent address : Govind Vihar, Kadirur PO,
 Kannur District,
 Kerala- 670 642, India

Date of Birth : 7 March 1974

Gender : Female

Marital Status : Married, with one daughter

Language Proficiency : English, Hindi, Malayalam (Native)
 Tamil and French (Basic Level)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (Social Anthropology of Development/ Policy Studies): In 2019 with a CGPA of 9.54/10.

'Aid and Beyond: Farmers, Facilitators and the Politics of participation in the State of Kerala.'

Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

M.Sc. (Environmental Sciences) In 1998 with an OGPA of 9.51/10

(Specialization in Solid Waste Management of Paper Factory for Agriculture)

Agricultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

B.Sc. (Agriculture): In 1995 with an OGPA of 8.9/10)

College of Horticulture, Vellanikkara, Thrissur

Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Thrissur, Kerala.

National Eligibility Test (NET) in Environmental Sciences : Qualified in 1998

Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board, New Delhi

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD)

Teaching Assistant (Department of Humanities and Social Sciences (HUSS), IITD, as part of Ph.D. Programme): From 02-01-2012 to 31-12-2016.

Worked with the research supervisor and assisted her in collecting the reading materials, designing courses, tutorials and course evaluation methods, coordinating exams and evaluating the same for eight courses on development and policy studies offered for UG students at IIT Delhi, giving an understanding of various development policies and programmes in the world, and in India, in particular.

Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Council Keralam (VFPCCK)

District Manager, Deputy Manager (Training, Production and Technology, Marketing) & Associate Editor (*Krishiyankanam*): From 01-04-2001 till date (on study leave from 02-01-2012 to 31.03.2018)

District Manager (VFPCCK Idukki)

Headed the district team to fulfil the mission and vision of the council by coordinating the district level activities from seed to market in fruits and vegetable sector.

Co-ordination of 18 farmer's markets of the district and the activities of the attached Self-Help Groups.

Networking and collaboration with stakeholders including State Government bodies, institutes, NGOs, research organization, LSGDs etc.

Member of District Development Committee (DDC) under the chairmanship of the district collector.

Associate Editor for "Krishiyankanam" (Agricultural journal published by VFPCCK)

Transformed the Quarterly Newsletter of the council to a Bi-monthly Agricultural Journal, covering topics from all agricultural and allied sectors.

Co-ordinated all works in connection with the publication by networking with multi-stakeholder groups.

Published articles, reviews, notes and messages from renowned personalities.¹

Wrote articles for publication and prepared Editorials on behalf of the CEO.

Associated in the preparation of the logo of the organization, brochures, leaflets etc.

Delivered three radio talks.

Prepared scripts for documentaries and won a state level script writing competition during a Farm Feature workshop on Video Production organized by Farm Information Bureau.

¹ Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Dr. R.K.Pachauri, O.N.V Kurup (Jnanpeeth award winner), C. Radhakrishnan, Ministers etc.

Deputy Manager and Technical Assistant to CEO

Had an opportunity to work with the Chief Executive Officer in planning, implementing and monitoring the programmes and projects of the council.

Coordinated the conduct of the director board meetings and preparation of agenda notes and minutes for the same.

Worked in liaison with the Office of the Agricultural Minister.

Deputy Manager (Marketing)

Associated in development of the concept and activities of the SKS consortium (Apex bodies of district level farmers' markets) and coordinated the activities of the SKS consortiums.

Organized the first State level Workshop on Networking of Farmer Markets through SKS consortium.

Deputy Manager (Production & Technology)

Coordinated the state level Production & Technology activities for two years.

Coordinated the state level conduct of PTD (Participatory Technology Development) trials, demonstrations, campaigns, workshops etc. and organized the state level PTD Workshop.

Introduced the concept of EM composting through PTD that turned out to be one among the best technological interventions of the council.

Introduced the seed production of cool season vegetables in tropics as PTD trial.

Deputy Manager (PARG²-Production & Technology)

Coordinated the District level activities of Production & Technology for eight years.

Co-ordinated the conduct of PTD (Participatory Technology Development) trials, demonstrations, workshops etc. and organized the district level workshops on PTD.

Designed and organized awareness campaigns on various aspects for the popularization of eco-friendly farming practices.

Formed an eco-club by mobilizing farmers and coordinated Farm Field Schools.

Prepared the VFPCCK package of practices for the website.

Served as resource person for the PRA workshop organized by KAU for NATP on PAS.

Coordinated Agri @ school programme for 60 schools.

Deputy Manager (PARG Training)

Served eight years in VFPCCK as district level Training Coordinator with occasional short term assignments at HQ.

Organized and coordinated trainings and exposure visits for the project staff, farmers and other stakeholders on various topics.

² Project Area Resource Group at the District level. Normally the role of the PARG Training holds the charge of PARG Production & Technology also.

Prepared presentation materials on various topics for circulation and acted as resource person for the external paid training for Department of Agriculture, NGOs, KVKs, Schools, Karshakasree and other organizations.

Organized exhibitions, seminars, agro clinics etc.

Coordinated Induction and Orientation programmes for new recruits and prepared I&O manuals.

Associated in coordinating council level Institutional Development and Organizational Strengthening workshop (IDOS).

Conceptualized, planned and developed programmes and policies for capacity development as part of the training team based on the need analysis for all stake holder groups with periodical review and monitoring.

Facilitated the preparation of farmers' market based micro-plans using PRA tools and associated with the implementation process.

Developed a project on "*Gender Dimensions in Horticulture in the Adoption of Eco-friendly Farming Practices*" and presented the same at Centre for Developmental Studies (CDS).

Kerala Horticulture Development Programme (KHDP)

Technical Officer (Training): From 21-04-1999 to 31-03-2001.

Got the opportunity to work in a multi-cultural environment in Kerala Horticulture Development Programme (KHDP), an EU funded initiative which eventually transformed into a government owned company, Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Council Keralam (VFPCCK).

Organized and coordinated trainings and exposure visits for the project staff, farmers and other stakeholders on various topics and prepared training materials, manuals etc.

Organized exhibitions, seminars, agro clinics etc.

MAJOR TRAININGS/ COURSES UNDERGONE

Specialized Course on Sustainable Development co-organized by IIT Delhi and School of Sustainability, Arizona State University at IIT Delhi, 2015.

Research Methodology course on "*Doing Ethnography*" organized by Anthropos India Foundation at JNU, 2015.

Course on Research Methodologies in Social Sciences organized by Centre for Social Development, September 2012.

Certificate Course on Foreign Languages (French- Basic Level) offered by IIT Delhi, 2016.

International training programme on Theme Centered Interaction organized by Ruth Cohn Institute for TCI, Germany, 2005.

ISO auditors' training organized by INSIGHT, Cochin, Kerala, 2006.

PRA training organized by OUTREACH Bangalore, 2000.

Farm Feature WS on Video Production organized by Farm Information Bureau (FIB), Kerala, 2007.

Organic Farming for extension Functionaries organized by CARD KVK under National Project on Organic Farming, by National Centre on Organic Farming, 2007.

Training on Value addition of fruits and vegetables held at CFTRI, Mysore, 2007.

Training on Lakshmanan Agricultural Scientific Services (LASS) Technology in Palakkad, 2005.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Foreign Language Programme (French-Level1) (A1)

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi

Diploma in Visual Information Technology (DVIT) (Distinction - 80 %)

Bureau of Data Processing Systems Ltd, Coimbatore

Diploma in Theme Centered Interaction

Department of Adult Education, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Junior Research Fellow (1997-1998)

Department of Environmental Sciences,

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Junior Research Fellow (1996)

Department of Agricultural Extension,

Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Thrissur, Kerala

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

BOOK

Premkumar. J, K. Mini and Kavitha. S. Nair. (2006). *Advances in Vegetable Production Technology*. VFPCCK, Kochi, India.

EDITED JOURNAL

Associate Editor –Krishiyankanam (Agricultural Journal of Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Council Keralam) from 2008 to 2010. Released 7 issues of the magazine with cover stories viz. Onapperuma, Climate change and Agriculture, Jack Fruit, Banana: Production and Protection, Rodent Management, Organic farming Vol.1 & Vol.2 (combined volume).

DISSERTATIONS

- Mini K. (2018). *Aid and Beyond: Farmers, Facilitators and the Politics of Participation in the State of Kerala*. Doctoral Thesis, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi.
- Mini K. (1998). *Impact of Composted Bagasse Pith and Paper Mill Effluent Irrigation on Soil Environment and Groundnut Crop*. M.Sc. thesis, Department of Environmental Sciences, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.

PEER REVIEWED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- Mini K. (2019). *Altered Landscapes, Reconfigured Networks and the Politics of Participation in the 'Pineapple City': An Autoethnographic Narrative of Transition from the South Indian State of Kerala*, Paper presented during the Annual Conference of the South Asia Anthropology Group (SAAG), Department of Anthropology, London School of Economics and Political Sciences, United Kingdom.
- Mini K. (2019). *The Making of the 'Pineapple City': Reconfigured Networks and Reworked History of Vazhakkulam Pineapple in Kerala*. Accepted for the International Workshop-Conference on Republic of Plants, as part of Moving Crops and the Scales of History (An ongoing research project at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin), to be held at Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) during December 2019.
- Mini K. (2015). *Diary Reading of Grass Root Level Institutions to Locate Participation, Empowerment and Sustainability: Story of a Farmers' Self-help Group (SHG) in South India*, Paper for the International Symposium on Sustainable Systems and Technologies, ISSST, organized by the State University of Arizona, USA.
- Mini K. (2014). *Internationally Aided State-led Agricultural Development Programme: Whose Agency Counts?* Paper presented during the Third Network of Rural and Agrarian Studies (NRAS) Workshop, IIFM Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Mini K, C. Udayasooriyan and P.P.Ramaswamy. (1999). Bioconversion of Paper and Pulp Mill Solid Wastes. *Madras Agricultural Journal* 86 (4-6), 195-198.

OTHER CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP PAPERS

- N. Vijayan, Deepthi. S. Nair and Mini.K. (2009). *VFPCCK as a PPP Model*, Proceedings of the National Workshop organized by KAU on Public Private Partnership, Thrissur, Kerala.
- Ashok Kumar T., J. Premkumar, Mary Simon and Mini. K. (2004). *Status and Need for Mechanization of Production Operations in Horticultural Crops*. Proceedings of the National Workshop on Agricultural Mechanization, CIAE, Bhopal.
- Mini K, C. Udayasooriyan, S.Alfred and P.P.Ramaswamy. (2002). *Recycling Industrial Waste for Agricultural Production: A Case Study Analysis Using Paper Mill Waste*. Proceedings of the National Seminar on the Environmental Problems and Management, Christ College, Irinjalakuda, Kerala, 120-127.
- Mini K and C. Udayasooriyan. (2002). *Recycling Paper Mill Waste for Agriculture*. Proceedings of the Eleventh Swadeshi Science Congress, KFRI, Peechi, Kerala.
- Mini K, S. Mothilal Nehru, B.G. Syamkumar and K. Sreelakshmi. (2002). *Integrated Pest Management in Horticulture: Role of Participatory Approaches in Adoption Behaviour of Farmers*. Proceedings of the National Seminar on Current Environmental Problems and Management, Christ College, Irinjalakuda, Kerala, 47-49.
- Mini K and C. Udayasooriyan. (2001). *Effect of Activated Sludge and Effluent Treatment Plant Sludge on PH, EC and C/N ratio of composted Bagasse Pith*. Proceedings of the Thirteenth Kerala Science Congress, Thrissur, Kerala, 474-476.
- Udayasooriyan. C., Mini. K and P.P. Ramaswamy. (1999). *Bagasse Pith compost: An Effective Ameliorant in Paper Mill Polluted Soil Environment*. Proceedings of the Workshop on Bioremediation of Polluted Habitats, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, 74-75.
- Mini K, C. Udayasooriyan, S. Alfred and P.P.Ramaswamy. (1998). *Solid Waste Management in Paper Pulp Mill* .Proceedings of the National Seminar on the Environmental Status in Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- Mini K. (1998). *Activated Sludge Systems: Diagnosis, Modeling and Control of Filamentous Bulking*. Proceedings of the Seminar on Environmental Pollution, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, 34-53.

ARTICLES IN POPULAR MEDIA

- Sreelakshmi K and Mini, K. (2011). And Quiet Flow India's Rivers (Cover Story). *Terra Green*. 3(12), 28-33.
- Mini K. (2010). Irikku, Doctor Krishithirakkilanu (Have Your Seat, the Doctor is Busy Farming). *Keralakarshakan*. 56 (4), 8-9.

- Mini K. (2010). Arinjathu Kadukolam, Ariyanirikunathu Kadalolam (Known is as much as a Mustard Seed; to be known, as much as an Ocean - On pesticide impacts on health). *Krishiyankanam*. 15 (3, 4), 13-15.
- Mini K. (2010). Keralathinte Jaivakrishinayavum Karmapadhathikalum (Organic Farming Policy of Kerala and its Strategies). *Krishiyankanam*. 15 (3,4), 47-52.
- Mini K. (2010). EM Sankethikavidya (EM Technology). *Krishiyankanam*. 15 (3,4), 56.
- Mini K. (2010). Furadanidathe Vazha Kulaykkumo? (Will a banana produce bunch without Furadan? - On indiscriminate application of pesticide in Banana). *Krishiyankanam*. 15 (3,4), 69.
- Mini K. (2010). Jalam, Madhyamapravarthanam, Krishi- Padrayku Parayanullathu (Water, Media and Agriculture: What Sree Padre Wants to Tell). *Krishiyankanam*. 15 (3,4), 89-91
- Mini K. (2010). Cuba: Viplavathinte Mannile Jaivaviplavathinte Katha (Cuba: The Tale of Bio-revolution from the Land of Revolution). *Krishiyankanam*. 15 (3,4), 36-37.
- Mini K. (2010). Orayiram Amruthakalashangal (Organic Farming Initiative by Regional Cancer Centre). *Krishiyankanam*. 15 (3,4), 45.
- Mini K. (2010). Kadaleevanangalile Vilikkatha Virunnukar (Uninvited Guests of the Banana Plantations). *Krishiyankanam*. 15 (1), 34.
- Mini K. (2010). Vazhappazhathinte Rashtreeyam (The Politics of Banana). *Krishiyankanam*. 15 (1), 33.
- Sreelakshmi, K and Mini, K. (2009). Kalavasthayum Bhakshyasurakshayaum (Climate Change and Food Security). *Krishiyankanam*. 14 (4), 6-8.
- Mini K. (2009). Budhagayakku Appurathuninnum Oru MBA Sabjiwala (An MBA Vegetable Seller from beyond the Bodhgaya). *Krishiyankanam*. 14 (4), 42-43.
- Mini K. (2009). Pachappulla Swapnangalumayi Dayalannan (The Green Dreams of Dayal). *Krishiyankanam*. 14 (3), 42-44.
- Mini K. (2009). Apoorvahobiyumayi Reji (Reji with his unique hobby). *Krishiyankanam*. 14 (3), 42-44.
- Mini K. (2006). Varavay Greeshmakalam, Tharumo Alpam Dahajalam (Summer is here, Can I have some water? - On irrigation methods). *Krishiyankanam*. 11 (6), 5-9.
- Sreelakshmi K, Mini K. and Jancy K.K (2005). Chimera- Vazhayilumoru Ardhanareeswaran (Chimera in Banana). *Krishiyankanam*. 10 (5), 16.
- Mini K. (2003). Ilavazhakrishi (Cultivation of Banana for Leaves). *Krishiyankanam* 8 (3), 22-23.
- Mini K. (1999). Marunnu Thalikkumbol Sadharana Vararulla Pishakukukal (Common mistakes during pesticide application). *Krishiyankanam*. 4 (2), 16-17.
- Mini K. (1996). Karshaka Rakshakku Suryathapavum (Sun's Heat to Save the Farmers- Soil Solarization). *Souvenir for Association of Agricultural Officers Kerala*

RADIO TALKS

Self Help Groups in Agriculture

Scope of Group Marketing in Agriculture

Organic Farming

DOCUMENTARIES/ VIDEOS

Zero energy cool chambers. (2008). Broadcasted in Doordarshan

Cultivation of cool season vegetables in tropics. (2008). Broadcasted in Doordarshan

“Swasrayathwathinte Pathayilode”. (2000). Success story of a farmer, VFPCCK

“Swashrayathwathilode Jalasamridhiyum”. (2001). Success story of a farmer group, VFPCCK

EU Mission. (1999). On the visit of EU Review Mission on KHDP.

MAJOR CONFERENCES/ WORK SHOPS/ SEMINARS ATTENDED

Second Policy Conference of Network of Rural and Agrarian Studies (NRAS) on *Beyond Productivity and Populism: Reimagining India's Agricultural and Rural Policies*, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, September, 2019.

Second National Symposium on Agriculture on *Multifunctional Agriculture for Sustainable Development* at India International Centre, New Delhi, organized by Bharati Institute of Public Policy, January 2020.

The Second Inter-disciplinary Symposium on the SDGs: *Sustainable Development Processes: Engagements in Knowledge and Democracy*, at India International Centre, New Delhi, organized by Shiv Nadar University, January 2018.

Seminar on *Challenges in Agricultural Policy Reforms in India*, at India International Centre, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi organized by Centre for Agricultural Policy Dialogue (CAP) and Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, January 2018.

National Conference on *India's Soils: Science-Policy-Practice Interfaces for Sustainable Futures* organised by DST-Centre for Policy Research IIT Delhi, Revitalising Rainfed Areas Network (RRA), WASSAN and Shiv Nadar University at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, 2017.

Global Summit on *Green revolution II* organized by ASSOCHAM, New Delhi, 2010.

Second NRAS Workshop on *Altering Rural Landscapes: Structures, Institutions and Households*, Annamalai University, Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu, 2012.

Occasional Seminar Series on relevant topics organized by HUSS, IIT Delhi from 2012 to 2018.

REFERENCES

1. Dr. Richa Kumar
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Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
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Professor, General Management- Strategy and Policy
Institute of Rural Management, Anand
Gujrat, India
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