

Crispino Lobo

Crispino Lobo has nearly 30 years of engagement in rural development issues at all levels, from ground level implementation, program management to policy engagement. Areas of expertise include natural resource management, watershed development, integrated water resources management, sustainable agriculture, climate change adaptation, institutional and policy development. He was the Program Coordinator of the large-scale and well acclaimed Indo-German Watershed Development Program (IGWDP) in Maharashtra for 13 years. He Initiated, together with NABARD in 1999, the establishment of the Watershed Development Fund by the Government of India, which has resulted in watershed development activities being implemented across the country, through NGOs.

In 2014, together with NABARD, he initiated the establishment of the National Adaptation Fund (NAF) by the Government of India. He co-founded 4 non-profit institutions – Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR), the Sampada Trust (ST), Sanjeevani Institute of Empowerment and Development (SIED) and Sampada Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Foundation (SELF). These institutions collectively have impacted the lives of over 2.1 million people in 8 states in India; trained over 400,000 people from 27 states and 63 countries and supported development works in over 4,000 villages.

He is an alumnus of the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University and Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune; has 5 academic degrees – 3 under-graduate degrees (BA) in philosophy, theology, and psychology and 2 graduate degrees, (MA) in economics and public administration. He has authored/ co-authored/ helmed several articles and 7 books, 3 of which have been published internationally. He has been a regular participant in the Pre-Budget Consultations on Agriculture since the last 20 years. Recently (September 2017), he was appointed to the Expert Working Group on Water Resources Management of the NITI Aayog (successor to India's Planning Commission) and the Multi-Stakeholder Platform on Water Governance by the Govt. of Maharashtra.