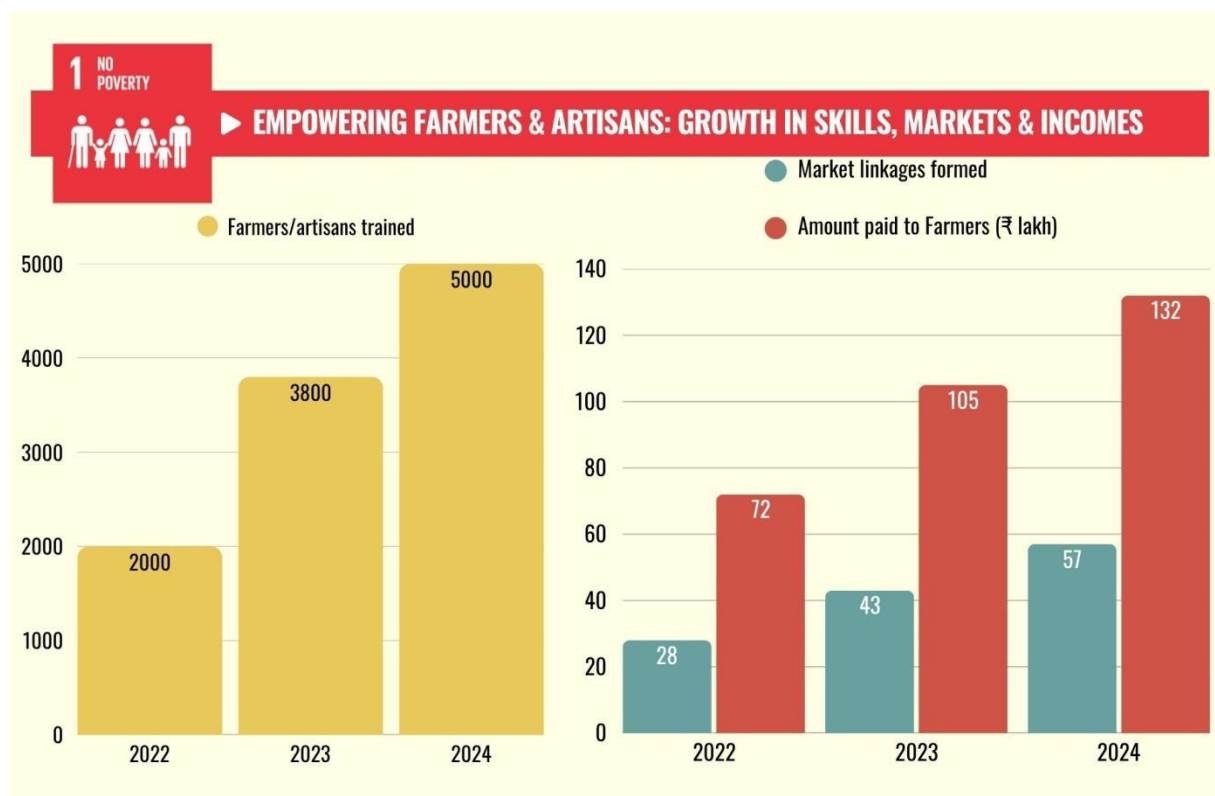


Training and programmes improving service access

Empowering Farmers and Artisans through Innovation Centurion University drives **innovation-led rural development** by supporting farmers and artisans through the **Utkal Krishi Mela**, digital market platforms, and **Maker Spaces**. These initiatives promote **sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture**, enabling local producers to **access new technologies, markets, and knowledge**. At the heart of this model is the Agri-Clinic & Retail Hub, operated by the School of Agriculture and the Utkal Agri-Tech Centre. The hub provides year-round access to eco-friendly inputs, agri-advisory services, and farmer–scientist dialogues, ensuring that innovation translates into measurable livelihood improvements.

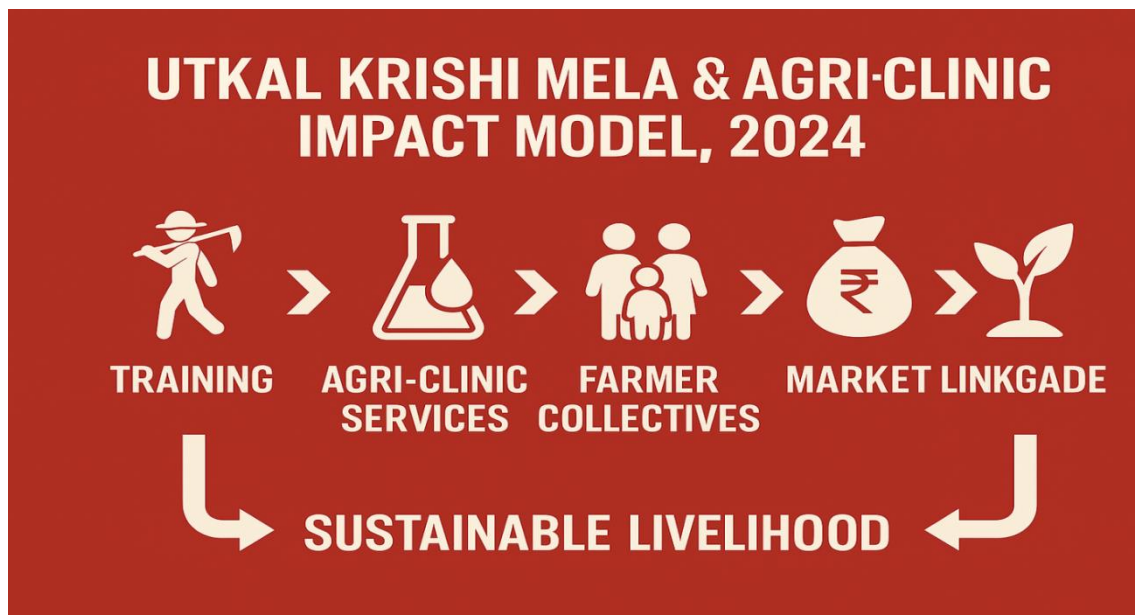
Institutionalized as an annual program, the Utkal Krishi Mela is supported by ICAR, Krishi Jagran, and District Agricultural Departments, fostering long-term collaboration between academia, government, and industry. Together, they strengthen rural economies and advance Centurion University’s mission to transform regional and remote communities through applied innovation.



To complement this community-focused innovation ecosystem, Centurion University invests in Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs) that embed the principles of sustainability, equity, and innovation across its academic framework. These programs enhance teaching quality, integrate SDG-aligned content, and build research and digital pedagogy capacity among educators. Faculty members are equipped with AI-integrated teaching tools and experiential learning methodologies that connect classroom learning to real-world societal challenges.



Fig 1: Utkal Krishi Mela 2024



Key Outcomes (2024)

- **Broad Faculty Participation:** Over 300 faculty members engaged in structured FDPs emphasizing pedagogical innovation, outcome-based education, and experiential learning.
- **Curriculum Modernization:** AI-enabled and community-linked coursework aligned with SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 4 (Quality Education).
- **Continuous Quality Improvement:** FDPs institutionalized within Centurion University's IQAC review cycle, ensuring a data-driven and cyclical approach to teaching quality enhancement.

The FDP framework is a permanent component of Centurion University's academic development ecosystem, implemented in collaboration with:

- Partner universities
- Industry experts
- National research councils

Regular modules emphasise:

- Sustainability and SDG integration
- Digital pedagogy and innovation
- Inclusive, learner-centric education

