Chapter-2

Framework of CRA

Appropriate Terminology for SRIJAN's Agriculture Approach

SRIJAN's work also has a strong focus on climate adaptation, reducing farmer's vulnerability, improving soil health and minimizing external input dependancy. Therefore, it is important to distinguish between the overarching approach and the specific outcomes SRIJAN seeks to achieve.

Considering SRIJAN's approach to rural livelihoods, natural farming, to rural livelihoods, natural farming, climate adaptation, biodiversity conservation, water budgeting, seed systems, and farmer-centric institutions, Climate Resilient Agriculture (CRA) is an appropriate overarching terminology for SRIJAN's agriculture approach.

Terminology	Primary Focus	Key Characteristics	Relevance to SRIJAN
Conventional Agriculture	Productivity and production efficiency	Intensive or targeted use of agricultural inputs, improved seeds, irrigation, and technology to increase production	Relevant where improved technologies and inputs are needed, but not sufficient as an overarching framework
Organic Farming	Chemical-free or restricted-input production and compliance with organic standards	Avoidance of prohibited synthetic inputs, use of organic practices, and certification where required for organic market claims	Relevant to organic production and market linkage, but certification is essential.
Regenerative Agriculture	Restoration and improvement of soil and ecosystem health	Soil organic matter improvement, reduced soil disturbance, cover crops, biodiversity, and restoration of ecosystem functions and natural resources	Relevant to soil and water restoration, Soil health management, and improved ecosystem functions

Sustainable Agriculture	Long-term viability of agriculture	Conservation of natural resources, efficient resource use, environmental protection, and economic and social sustainability	Relevant as a broad objective of SRIJAN's agriculture interventions
Climate-Smart Agriculture	Productivity, adaptation, and mitigation	Improving productivity and resilience while, where possible, reducing greenhouse gas emissions or increasing carbon sequestration	Relevant to climate adaptation, water management, and climate mitigation interventions
Natural Farming	Farming based on natural processes and locally available resources	Reduced dependence on external inputs, biological processes, on-farm resource use, and ecological interactions	Highly relevant to SRIJAN's natural farming and local bio-resource initiatives
Climate-Resilient Agriculture	Capacity to withstand and recover from climate shocks	Risk reduction, climate adaptation, resilient cropping systems, water budgeting, crop diversification, and need-based input use	Highly relevant to SRIJAN's focus on reducing climate vulnerability and protecting rural livelihoods based on natural farming and agroecological principle.
Agroecology	Ecological principles, biodiversity, local knowledge, and social systems	Diversified farming, ecological interactions, recycling of resources, farmer participation, local knowledge, and locally adapted solutions	Highly relevant as an overarching framework for SRIJAN's integrated, farmer-centric agriculture approach

The approach will be implemented through community institutions and farmer-led processes, ensuring that ecological sustainability, economic viability, and climate resilience are pursued together.

Climate Resilient Agriculture Focus Area: RKSA (Resource, Knowledge, Skill and Attitude) of Farmers: SRIJAN's CRA approach focuses on strengthening farmers' access to resources, knowledge, skills, and positive attitudes required to adopt and sustain climate-resilient farming practices. The RKSA framework enables a systematic assessment of farmers' capacities and constraints, ensuring that interventions address the gaps preventing them from adopting resilient farming systems.

RKSA Framework for Climate-Resilient Agriculture

Component	Focus Area	Key Interventions
R – Resource	Availability and accessibility of essential resources for CRA adoption	Access to quality and climate-resilient seeds, water, land, bio-inputs, farm tools, biomass, credit, and community-based resource centers
K – Knowledge	Understanding of climate risks, ecological processes, and CRA practices	Farmer training on climate risks, crop planning, water budgeting, crop rotation, cover crops, soil health, natural farming, and climate-resilient varieties
S – Skill	Practical ability to implement and manage CRA practices	Hands-on demonstrations, farmer field schools/Farmers group, seed treatment, bio-input preparation, crop diversification, moisture conservation, and climate-risk management
A – Attitude	Willingness, confidence and motivation to adopt and sustain CRA practices	Exposure visits, successful farmer demonstrations, participatory trials, peer learning, and evidence-based decision-making

