CAPSTONE PROJECT

AI AGENT FOR SMART FARMING ADVICE USING IBM RAG AND WATSONX.AI (AGRO BUDDY)

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OUTLINE

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- System Development Approach (Technology Used)
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PROBLEM STATEMENT

• In India, the majority of small-scale farmers do not have easy access to expert agricultural advice. This results in poor decision-making when it comes to crop selection, pest and disease management, weather preparedness, and selling produce at competitive prices. While digital tools exist, they are often not localized, real-time, or user-friendly for rural users. There is a significant knowledge gap between scientific agricultural practices and grassroots-level implementation. The lack of personalized support in local languages further widens this gap, limiting farmers' productivity and income potential.



PROPOSED SOLUTION

- We propose an intelligent, multilingual Al Agent designed specifically for small-scale farmers in India. This agent serves as a real-time, location-aware, conversational assistant that delivers actionable advice by combining document retrieval and LLM-based generation.
- Key Features:
- Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG): Fetches trusted, relevant data from agricultural reports, APIs, and weather services.
- Multilingual Conversations: Supports local languages like Hindi, Telugu, and Tamil through IBM Language Translator API.
- Weather-Aware: Provides weekly forecasts with tips on irrigation and pest risks.
- Crop Recommendations: Suggests crops based on season, soil type, and current climatic trends.
- Mandi Price Lookup: Fetches real-time crop prices using agrimarket.gov APIs.
- Voice Interaction (Optional): Allows speech-to-text inputs for farmers with low literacy levels.
- Sample Interaction:
- User: "August mein Maharashtra ke liye kaunsa crop sahi hai?"
- Al Agent: "Namaste Kisan Bhai! August mein Soybean, Cotton aur Bajra achhe vikalp hain. Yeh crops barish ke mausam mein acchi paidavar dete hain."
- The system democratizes access to expert farming advice, helping farmers make informed decisions at every step.

SYSTEM APPROACH

- The system architecture is modular and cloud-native, making it scalable, responsive, and accessible even in low-bandwidth areas.
- 1. Frontend Interface:
- Watsonx Assistant: Chat UI with intents like "crop advice," "weather forecast," "pest remedy."
- Custom Web UI (Optional): Lightweight responsive interface for mobile users.
- 2. Backend & Al Engine:
- IBM Watsonx.ai + Granite LLM: For generating natural, contextual responses.
- IBM Cloud Functions: Executes API calls for retrieval and translation logic.
- 3. Knowledge Sources:
- Government APIs: agrimarket.gov.in, IMD, KVK Reports
- Domain-Specific PDFs and HTMLs stored in IBM Cloud Object Storage
- 4. Translation & Voice:
- IBM Language Translator API: Converts between English and local languages.
- IBM Speech-to-Text: Enables audio queries (planned in future).



SYSTEM APPROACH

Component

Chat Interface

LLM Engine

Storage

Serverless Logic

APIs Integrated

Language Support

Technology Used

IBM Watsonx Assistant

IBM Granite Model

IBM Cloud Object Storage

IBM Cloud Functions

IMD, Agrimarket, Soil DB

IBM Language Translator

- Design Choice:
- Intent-Driven Design: Enables easy extension of features.
- Feedback Loop: Users can rate answers for continuous model fine-tuning.
- Visual Cards: Market prices, rainfall trends, and crop calendars displayed in structured format.



ALGORITHM & DEPLOYMENT

- Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) architecture is used:
 - User Query (e.g., "What crop to grow in August in Maharashtra?")
 - Retrieve related documents based on location and season (weather, soil, crop guides)
 - Feed retrieved context into IBM Granite model
 - Generate a natural language response in preferred language

Algorithm Justification:

- RAG bridges data retrieval and generation, ensuring fact-based, personalized responses.
- IBM Granite model is trained on diverse corpora and fine-tuned for agriculture-specific prompts.

Deployment:

- Backend is deployed on IBM Cloud Functions
- Frontend connected to Watsonx Assistant
- Object Storage holds knowledge documents (PDFs, HTMLs)



RESULT

The Al Agent delivers real-time responses to farmer queries.

Some example results:

Agent preview



What crop should I grow this month in Tamil Nadu?



Hello, Farmer Friend!

In Tamil Nadu, for this month, it's generally advisable to grow **paddy** (rice) as it thrives in the monsoon conditions. Other options include **cabbage** and **spinach** which can be grown in the drier interspaces between paddy fields.

Remember to keep an eye on the weather and ensure your fields are well-irrigated. Also, be vigilant for common pests and diseases affecting these crops.

I hope this helps! If you need more specific advice, consider reaching out to your local agricultural officer.

Best regards, Your AI Assistant

▶ How did I get this answer?





RESULT



"My tomato plants have black spots on leaves. What should I do?"

watsonx Agent 10:48 AM

I'm sorry to hear about your tomato plants, Kisan Bhai. Black spots on leaves can be a sign of a fungal disease called 'Early Blight'. Here's what you can do:

- 1. **Identify the Problem**: Confirm it's Early Blight by checking for additional symptoms like wilting leaves and brown spots on fruits.
- 2. **Remove Affected Parts**: Cut off and dispose of the infected leaves and stems. Avoid composting them to prevent spreading the disease.
- 3. **Apply Fungicide**: Use a suitable fungicide like Mancozeb or Triforine. Follow the instructions on the label for application rates and timing.
- ${\bf 4. \ Crop \ Rotation:} \ Practice \ crop \ rotation \ to \ prevent \ the \ buildup \ of \ pathogens \ in \ the \ soil.$
- 5. **Watering Practices**: Water your plants early in the morning to allow leaves to dry quickly, reducing the humidity that promotes fungal growth.
- ${\bf 6. \ Sanitation:} \ Keep \ your \ farm \ clean \ and \ free \ of \ debris \ that \ could \ harbor \ the \ fungus.$



CONCLUSION

• This project showcases how AI can be effectively used to empower Indian farmers by providing personalized, localized, and real-time agricultural advice. By combining the strengths of document retrieval and language models, the AI agent becomes a virtual farming assistant. This project improves decision-making, enhances productivity, and ultimately increases the income of small-scale farmers. The use of IBM Cloud ensures scalability and reliability for rural deployments.



FUTURE SCOPE

- Integrate camera-based pest detection using AI image classification
- Add voice note feature for illiterate users
- Expand to more Indian languages and dialects
- •Add support for government subsidy eligibility and scheme updates
- Integrate with IoT sensors for soil moisture and pH data
- Deploy through SMS/IVR for regions with no smartphone access



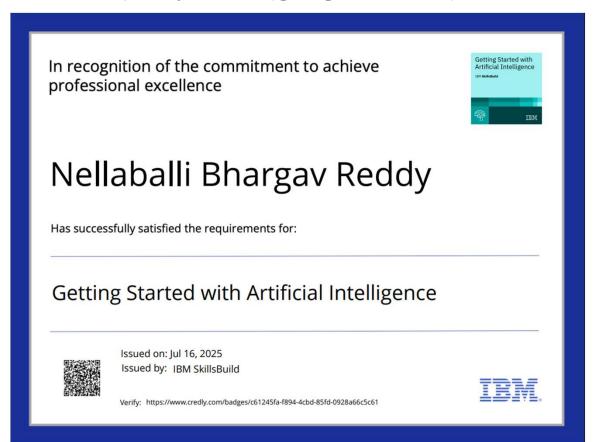
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- •soilhealth.dac.gov.in (Soil Health Reports)
- •IBM Watsonx.ai and IBM Granite Documentation
- •Krishi Vigyan Kendra Guidelines



IBM CERTIFICATIONS

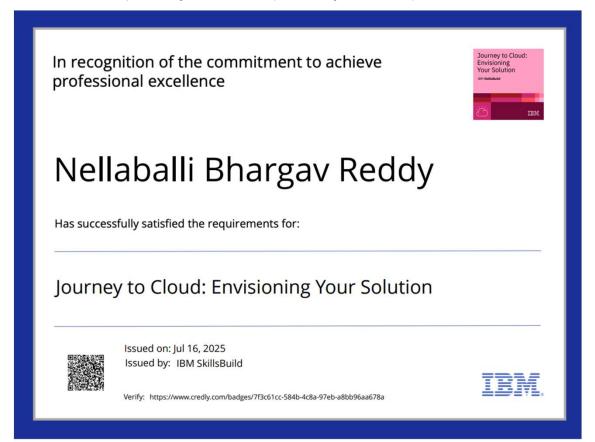
Screenshot/ credly certificate(getting started with Al)





IBM CERTIFICATIONS

Screenshot/ credly certificate(Journey to Cloud)





IBM CERTIFICATIONS

Screenshot/ credly certificate(RAG Lab)

IBM SkillsBuild

Completion Certificate



This certificate is presented to

Nellaballi Bhargav Reddy

for the completion of

Lab: Retrieval Augmented Generation with LangChain

(ALM-COURSE_3824998)

According to the Adobe Learning Manager system of record

Completion date: 24 Jul 2025 (GMT)

Learning hours: 20 mins



THANK YOU

