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EDITORIAL



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From Project Director's Desk

Forests have played an important role in the Indian rural economy, by linking food, fodder, and fuel as the three basic needs for making a living. It is the forests that provide these basic needs from the beginning. Hence, forest management is often considered as an integral part of rural development strategy in India. As per MoEF&CC Forestry represents the second major land use in India after agriculture. Therefore, many convergence programmes in our country are often measured with matrixes of its engagement with forest dwellers. It's imperative to mention that Convergence programmes are designed to increase the Social Capital. Collective planning and implementation among different stakeholders often enhances social capital. This improves management and work output of the programme. Under OFSDP-II, the major objective of Livelihood enhancement of forest dwellers is integrated with convergence programmes of other line departments at ground level. Under active participation of District Level Action Committee (DLAC) and Block Level Action Committees (BLAC) guided by High Power Committee of OFSDP, convergence programmes at division level are reaching new heights. It is observed that almost major line departments are collaborating with Divisional Units under OFSDP-II to carry out the development programmes under convergence. This is a very positive sign and it will boost the sustainability of the livelihood programmes in future. Different convergence reports and its rationale are covered in this issue of Banayana.

Reports on project implementations, related success stories and different case studies from DMUs are carried. It's heartening that DMU stakeholders are making special effort in mobilizing resources and focusing on timely implementation of project components to achieve the project objectives of OFSDP-II. The human touch of harnessing the natural resources and restoring them to its original position will ultimately help the society as these are the targeted outcomes of the project. Any small or big endeavor of stakeholders in achieving this outcome are always encouraging.

Dr. Sudarsan Panda, IFS

CONTENTS

1 Editorial

2 Success Story

3 Case Study

5 Convergence Story

6 Events & Snippets

8 Media Coverage



INCOME AUGMENTATION ACTIVITIES UNDER OFSDP:

The leaf plate pressing machine became a source of income for SHGs

Kendupali is a small tribal Village under Gajalbadi Gram Panchayat of Suroda Block in Ganjam District. There are total 38 households in the village. The people dependent on forest and agriculture produces for their livelihood of their family. The people also protecting the forest by forming the VSS under Forest and Environment Department Govt of Odisha. In the year 2018-19 this village was included in Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project Phase-II (OFSDP-II) under Ghumsur South Division.

There are two numbers of SHGs namely Maa Haragouri and Maa Sriya are actively functioning and doing regular saving in the bank. During Micro plan preparation and VSS meeting it is found that sal and siali leaf available in the VSSs forest area. The SHGs members collecting the leaf and preparing manually leaf plate in stick which was less profitable. So the SHGs members requested the project team to provide a plate pressing machine for preparation of pressed plate and cup which will be more profitable and source of alternative incomplete for the SHGs members. So this matter was discussed in the BLAC meeting under the chairmanship of BDO, Suroda and after that the BPM OLM with Project and PNGO team of Suroda discussed with the SHGs members and prepared a detail plan to provide a leaf plate machine under CIF loan fund. The machine was established in the month of December 2019 in convergence with Odisha



PCCF & PD, OFSDP inaugurating leaf plate pressing machine

Livelihood Mission (OLM). Total two lakhs amount of loan i.e one lakh rupees to each SHGs provided for the above purpose. Then the press machine was inaugurated by Dr. Sudarsan Panda PCCF (Projects) & Project Director OFSDP-II on 28th December 2019. After that it is functioning by the SHGs members with the hand holding support from OFSDP-II team.

After this intervention, now they are selling the leaf plate in the market and getting substantial profit. DMU also plans to open an outlet in Block Head quarter for selling of NTFP and agro based products and linkages with Aska and Berhampur market. This would also boost the plate making activities and business there too.



VSS members during the inaugural function





BACKYARD POULTRY (BANRAJ) DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

An initiative undertaken by Athamallik DMU under OFSDP - II



Community orientation at Athamallik DMU

Backyard Poultry is considered to be one of the important livelihood option, traditionally adopted in most of the tribal families and forest dwellers. During preparation of Micro-plan in Batch-I & II VSS, beneficiaries were identified at each VSS level for poultry rearing

activity. Before introduction of the Backyard Poultry Development Programme, they were invited to VSS level motivational meeting organized in different times on cluster basis and were imparted with the knowledge of scientific poultry rearing in a profitable manner.

Then the blue-print was prepared for supply of Chicks (Banraj variety) from SDVO, Athmallik Office where a hatchery unit is functioning. To supply Day-1 chicks in due time by end of August beneficiary Contribution was deposited @Rs24/- per chick in the office of the SDVO, Athmallik. Subsequently training was also provided to the beneficiaries under direct supervision of DFO-cum-DMU Chief for their capacity building and knowledge upgradation on Poultry. Field functionaries were also engaged to visit the site of Poultry Shed for future monitoring and management.

CHICKS DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMME:

By end of December 2892 numbers of Day-1 old chicks of Banraj and RR-8 breed have been distributed amongst the 52 indented beneficiaries for poultry rearing.

Since then, the poultry farming under the identified VSS of Batch-I and Bathc-II are functioning The OFSDP Phase-II team of Athmallik headed by DFO-Cum-DMU

Chief has also visited the poultry units of different VSS and has discussed with the beneficiaries. The feedback collected is quite encouraging. Mortality rate was assessed at about 3% only. This activity has now become a role model for other VSS members.



Chick distribution under backyard poultry programme



BANKERS' CONCLAVE FOR LINKAGE UNDER PMMY UNDER OFSDP PHASE-II

Athamallik Forest Division and Divisional Management unit organized one Bankers' Conclave in accordance with the decision taken in 5th DAC Meeting held under the Chairmanship of Collector & District Magistrate, Angul. This Bankers Conclave was organised on 27th November 2019 and attended by 59 interested beneficiaries who have shown interest to take loans under different schemes. The conclave was organised in presence of Lead District Manager, Angul and Director, RSETI, DFO-cum-DMU Chief, Athmallik Forest Division, representatives from SBI, Indian Bank, Gramya bank, UCO Bank, AXIS Bank & ICICI Bank. In the conclave, features of Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana was discussed in detail. Delegates deliberated on process of linkage, eligibility for

Mudra loan, required documents and rate of interest of PMMY etc. Out of 59 beneficiaries all total 47 beneficiaries have applied for loan for different non-farm based business activities amounting to Rs. 58.5 Lakhs. OFSDP has facilitated for preparation of BDP of all interested business entrepreneurs who are not defaulter in repayment of bank loans.

After the deliberation, one beneficiary, Sri Sukarna Munda of Dudhianali VSS sponsored by OFSDP-II was assisted with finance of Rs. 50,000/- under PMMY loan by Indian Bank, Athmallik Branch for installation of a Xerox and Mobile repairing Unit outlet.



Glimpses of Bankers' Conclave at Athamalik DMU

IDEAL VSS UNDER FOREST MANAGEMENT

Itamundia VSS, Dukura FMU, Baripada DMU under OFSDP-II.



Fire line work undertaken in Itamundia VSS



Plantation work of Itamundia VSS

Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project, Phase – II is being implemented in Itamundia VSS of Field Management unit, Dukura under Divisional Management Unit, Baripada. Assigned area of VSS is 143 Ha. under Itamundia Reserve Forest. Although the people of that village have been protecting the forest from 1975, but it was in the year 1995 that the VSS was constituted and was registered by the Divisional Forest Officer, Baripada.

After the implementation of OFSDP-II in Dukura FMU, 20 ha. area of the forest is under the treatment area of ANR without gap (Silvicultural Operation), 40 ha. area of the forest is under ANR with gap 400 Plants/ha., a run-off water harvestings structure has been constructed in 5 ha. area of the forest and 2km length fire line has been created within the forest in the financial year 2018-19.

Most of the people of this VSS are depending on forests for firewood and facing difficulties around the year. With the implementation of OFSDP-II, LPG Gas connection has been provided to 31 households through inter-sectoral convergence with Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) under the scheme Prime Minister UjjwalaYojana (PMUY).

After this initiative, the dependency of VSS people on the forest has been decreased considerably.

With the liaison of FMU coordinators with the Block level office, 35 numbers of Individuals House hold Latrine (IHHL) have been constructed in the VSS in Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) through inter-sectoral convergence with RWSS Dept. The use of latrine is significantly increased by the people.

The VSS people are actively engaging themselves for the protection of Forest and are cooperating with the project staff and Forest Department in every phase of the project work. The livelihood of VSS people is developing gradually and protection, conservation & regeneration of the forest is also increased for which they have expressed their indebtedness to the Project. The success story of Itamundia VSS is an example for other VSSs of Dukura FMU under DMU Baripada.



Progress of LBCD work in Itamundia VSS



VSS Building-cum-IGA centre of Itamundia VSS



CONVERGENCE STORY:

G-9 Banana Cultivation under Jharsuguda DMU



Convergence work of Banana cultivation at Kolabira under Jharsuguda DMU

Sri Lal bahadur Singh Bhoi is marginal farmer of Kulihamal VSS under FMU Kolabira. He was motivated to cultivate G-9 banana cultivation in his 1acre land. Horticulture Department in Jharsuguda provided 800 numbers of G-9 banana seedlings at 33% subsidy with support from OFSDP Staffs, Kolabira. He started farming in his own land from 2019. He gets monthly **Rs. 7000-8000/-** net profit from his farming. For his work, he was

awarded as the best farmer from Horticulture Department. He lauded the initiative of OFSDP-II project stakeholders who motivated him and recommended to be benefitted from this scheme of Horticulture Dept. He was grateful for the handholding support offered by the project staffs and sums this farming is close to nature and close to the plantation for the nature.

Mega Onion Seeds Distribution Programme under Athmallik DMU



To overcome the erratic supply of Onions and its rate fluctuations in the retail market, Govt. of Odisha on Mission mode has taken action for providing schematic support to Onion growers for further propagation of onion cultivation and related activities in the state. In accordance with the decision taken in the 5th & 6th DAC meeting of Athamallik DMU, Onion Seeds on subsidized price has been supplied to VSS level farmers in three assigned VSS with support from Horticulture Department. Total of 161 Kg of Onion seeds distributed in the month of November 2019 amongst 239 beneficiaries in three different occasions to 66 VSS villages in the presence of Horticulture department officials. The department staff gave them the technical knowhow on seed germination,

plantation technique and manuring process. It has been cultivated over 20 Ha. of land maximum of which is in Kishorenagar Block. It will be harvested by second week of March 2020. Based on the feedback collected from farmers, it is expected that the average yield from the cropping will be 12 tons per Ha. So the yield from OFSDP sponsorship will be around 240 tons which will be procured by a Producers' Organisation formed by the Cultivators of Kishorenagar block in the name "SURESWARI FARMER PRODUCERS GROUP". The same would be sold meticulously taking into consideration of prevention of distress sale. The total convergence amount for this activity is estimated of Rs.2,31,300/- and the Profit outcome will be around 40 lakhs (2 lakhs/ Ha.) excluding cost of cultivation around 20,000/ Ha.



Pilot activity on onion cultivation undertaken in Athamallik DMU



OFSDS paid tribute to its former Project Director:

Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Projects)-cum-Project Director of Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society (OFSDS) Shri Lalit Kumar Tewari, IFS passed away on 1st November 2019 at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar. A 1986-batch IFS officer, Shri Lalit Kumar Tewari was to retire from service in November 2019.

Shri Lalit Kumar Tewari was also the Member Secretary of Odisha Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) and Regional Chief Conservator of Forests (RCCF) Sambalpur.

Rich tribute was paid to the departed soul by the officers and members of the Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society.



NCSCM Work on long-term monitoring plan for Ecosystem-based conservation management for Bhitarkanika Conservation Area reviewed by PMU, OFSDP-II

In order to prepare the Eco-system Health Report Card for Bhitarkanika Conservation Area (BCA), progress made by the NCSCM, Chennai were reviewed at PMU, OFSDP on 31st October 2019 under the Chairmanship of Dr.(Mrs) Meeta Biswal, PD, OFSDP. The review programme was attended by PCCF(Wildlife)-cum-Chief Wildlife Warden, Mrs. P.Z. Mekro, IFS, Additional Project Director (A&F), OFSDP, Senior officials of PMU and PMC alongwith representatives of NCSCM.

Prof Ramesh Ramachandran, Director, NCSCM and Dr. Purvaja of NCSCM made a joint and elaborate presentation on the expected outcome of the consulting assignment. They also presented the quarterly progress report of the scientific study of Bhitarkanika Conservation Area and submitted the

Annual Report of 2018-19 for review to the PMU. Dr. Meeta Biswal, PD, OFSDP requested the NCSCM team to flag the important operational interventions and supports required in the field to be addressed by the PMU on priority basis.

Under Bio-diversity Component of OFSDP-II, NCSCM, Chennai is presently working on the Development of Eco-system Health Card of Bhitarkanika Sanctuary. The team is deployed at the sanctuary area to collect the inputs for analysis of data and preparation of the report card. NCSCM, Chennai in partnership with University of Maryland Centre for Environmental Science is developing a framework and indicators of the Eco-system Health Report Card of Bhitarkanika Conservation Area.

Vigilance Awareness Week Celebrated in OFSDS:

Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society observed the National Vigilance Awareness Week from 28th October to 2nd November 2019 at the Project Management Unit Office. The theme of this year's awareness week is "Integrity - A way of life".

The week-long programme was inaugurated at the PMU Office on 28th October 2019. Dr. (Mrs) Meeta Biswal, IFS, In-charge Project Director of OFSDS administered the citizen pledge to the employees of OFSDS. She also addressed the employees of OFSDS on this occasion and said that we must be conscious in discharging our duties and adhere to accountability, transparency to ensure corruption free atmosphere in the work place. She urged all officers and staffs to follow the basic principles of integrity in life and its impact in the longer run in increasing efficiency of the organisation and self-

transformation as a disciplined human being. She also emphasised that practice of ethics and principles by all stakeholders at work place will serve the governance objectives and citizens at the last mile will be benefitted out of it.

On this occasion, Shri Sudarsan Behera, OFS, Deputy Project Director of OFSDS administered the organisational pledge to all the employees of AJY and OFSDP-II under OFSDS.

Mrs P.Z. Mekro, IFS, Additional Project Director (A&F), Shri S.N. Mohapatra, IFS (Retd.) ESC Expert, Dr. Mamata Mishra, State Programme Manager(LLI) also discussed on the role of integrity, ethical values in life and their role in bringing transparency in the organisation. Senior officials and staff members of the OFSDS participated in the function.



Workshop on Ban on Single Use Plastic organised at PMU:

A Sensitization Workshop on Ban on Single Use Plastic at Forests and Workplace was organized at PMU, OFSDS on 02.12.2019. The meeting was organized as per the guidelines issued by the Govt of India and State Government to avoid using plastics in the work places.

Resource persons from OUAT and OSPCCB, deliberated on the Waste Management Principles and

principles of Ban on Single Use Plastic respectively. Individual practice of waste regeneration and its innovative use for the benefit of the environment was discussed. The meeting was chaired by Dr. (Mrs.) Meeta Biswal, Additional PCCF-cum-Project Director, OFSDS and Mrs P.Z. Mekro, IFS, Addl. PCCF-cum-Addl. Project Director, (A&F), OFSDS moderated the session.

SNIPPETS

One day sensitization workshop organized on 18th December 2019 at Ujjalpur FMU under Sundargarh in association with District Child Welfare Unit with participation of community members and primarily adolescent girls of these 158 VSSs. Social issues viz. JJ Act, Child marriage, Human trafficking were discussed in detail with the community stakeholders. It was attended by Hon'ble MLA, Talasara, DFO-cum-DMU Chief, Sundargarh, BDO, Balishankara Block and CDPO, Sundargarh



LPG distributed to 150 nos. VSS members of Lephripara FMU, Sundargarh DMU by the Project Director DRDA Sundargarh, This programme was organized by DFO Sundargarh in convergence with PMUY and it was attended by Chairman Lephripara Block, DPM, Odisha Livelihood Mission, District Manager ORAMAS.



VSS Building-cum-IGA facilitation center of Kuanala VSS under Ghumsur (South) was inaugurated by Dr. Sudarsan Panda, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and Project Director of OFSDP during his visit to the division on 27th December 2019. He also inspected the plantation activities carried out by the DMU under OFSDP-II components viz. AR plantation and other block plantations. This component is currently carried out in Buguda FMU in an area of 8 ha under Ghumsur South Division. He also interacted with the community stakeholders and urged them to take up innovative livelihood activities supported by OFSDP-II to reduce pressure on the adjoining forest area.

PCCF and Project Director, OFSDP visited the Surada FMU under Ghumsur South Division to review the progress of work under OFSDP-II. During his visit, he distributed the uniform dress materials to all animators. He also inaugurated a leaf plate making press machine at Kendupali Vana Surakshya Samiti established in convergence with Odisha Livelihood Mission.

